SONIC SELECT

BOOK TWO

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AND MANY MORE!

SONIC SELECT

BOOK TWO

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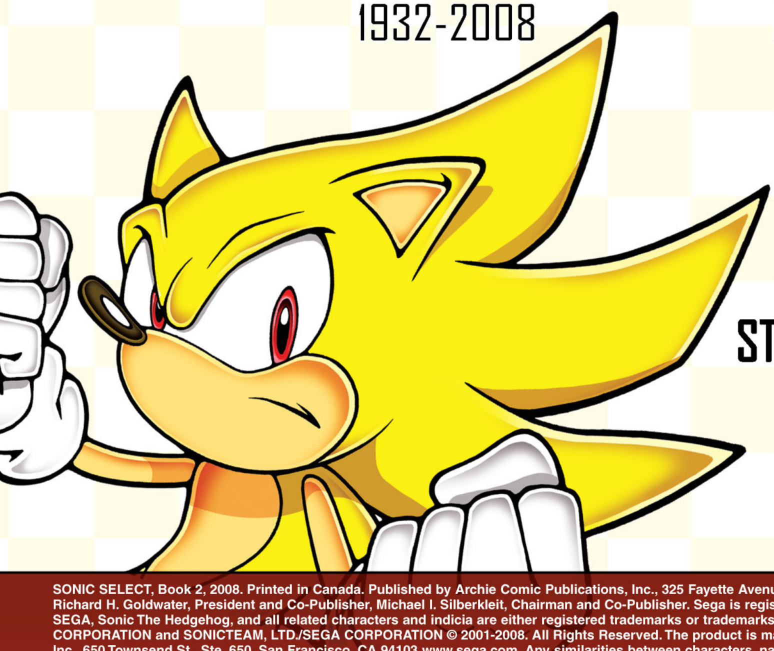

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SONIC SELECT
BOOK TWO

TABLE OF CONTENTS

"The Chaos Effect" (Knuckles' Chaotix):
It's the birth of Knuckles' team: the Chaotix! Robotnik's amusement park is anything BUT amusing when Sonic and friends are captured in a harrowing hall of mirrors, and it's up to the Chaotix to band together and save the day!

"Tag, You're It!" (Knuckles' Chaotix):
A friendly game of tag leads Espio to a discovery which could forever change Knuckles' life, and the lives of everyone he knows! Too bad Espio doesn't realize just what (or who) he has discovered!

"The Hunt Is On!" (Knuckles' Chaotix):
The Chaotix...kidnapped?! One by one, Knuckles' teammates fall victim to a mysterious captor, one who is powerful enough to ensnare the Chaotix without being detected. Who is behind all this, and what does it have to do with our feisty red echidna?

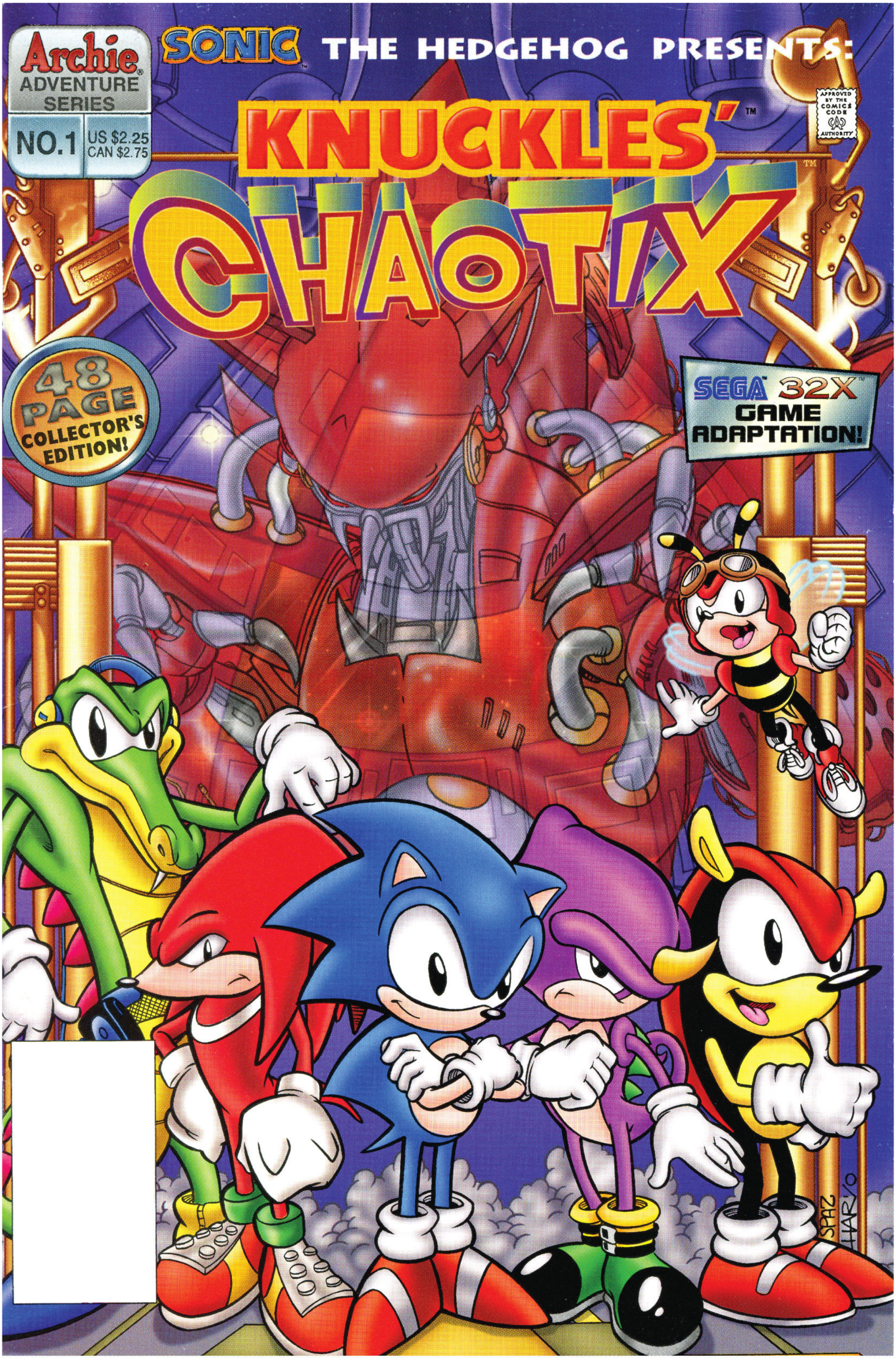
“Crash of the Titans” (Super Sonic vs. Hyper Knuckles):
When an entire zone full of magic rings and Chaos Emeralds is discovered, Knuckles and Sonic race to get the treasures for themselves! Things heat up when Sonic turns into his super form and faces off against…Hyper Knuckles! The invincible warriors duke it out in a battle that could shatter worlds!

“Fathers and Sons” (Super Sonic vs. Hyper Knuckles):
As Knuckles battles to decipher the conundrum of the missing Chaotix, he is forced to remember back to when he was a young Guardian-in-training under the tutelage of his father. Will searching the past reveal more about the future than Knuckles anticipated?

“Mecha Madness” (Mecha Madness):
When Sonic is roboticized by Dr. Robotnik, he threatens to tear all of Knothole apart and give away its secret location! Has the true blue Freedom Fighter really betrayed his friends? And to what lengths will they go to stop their once-acclaimed hero? You won’t believe your eyes when you read this epic story!

“Don’t Let the Island Hit You On the Way Down” (Mecha Madness):
Mammoth Mogul and his “Fearsome Foursome” arrive to wreak havoc on the Floating Island! Just who is this eternal elephant and what are his devious plans? And with an immortal enemy such as Mogul, do the Chaotix even stand a chance?

“Knuckles’ Quest, Part II” (Sonic Live!):
Following from “Sonic the Hedgehog” issue #42, Knuckles resumes his mission to find the mystical Sword of Acorns. He is on a sworn oath to locate the sword and save King Max, and nothing will stand in his way…nothing but giant dragons, one-eyed Devil Watchers, and vicious Blood Beasts!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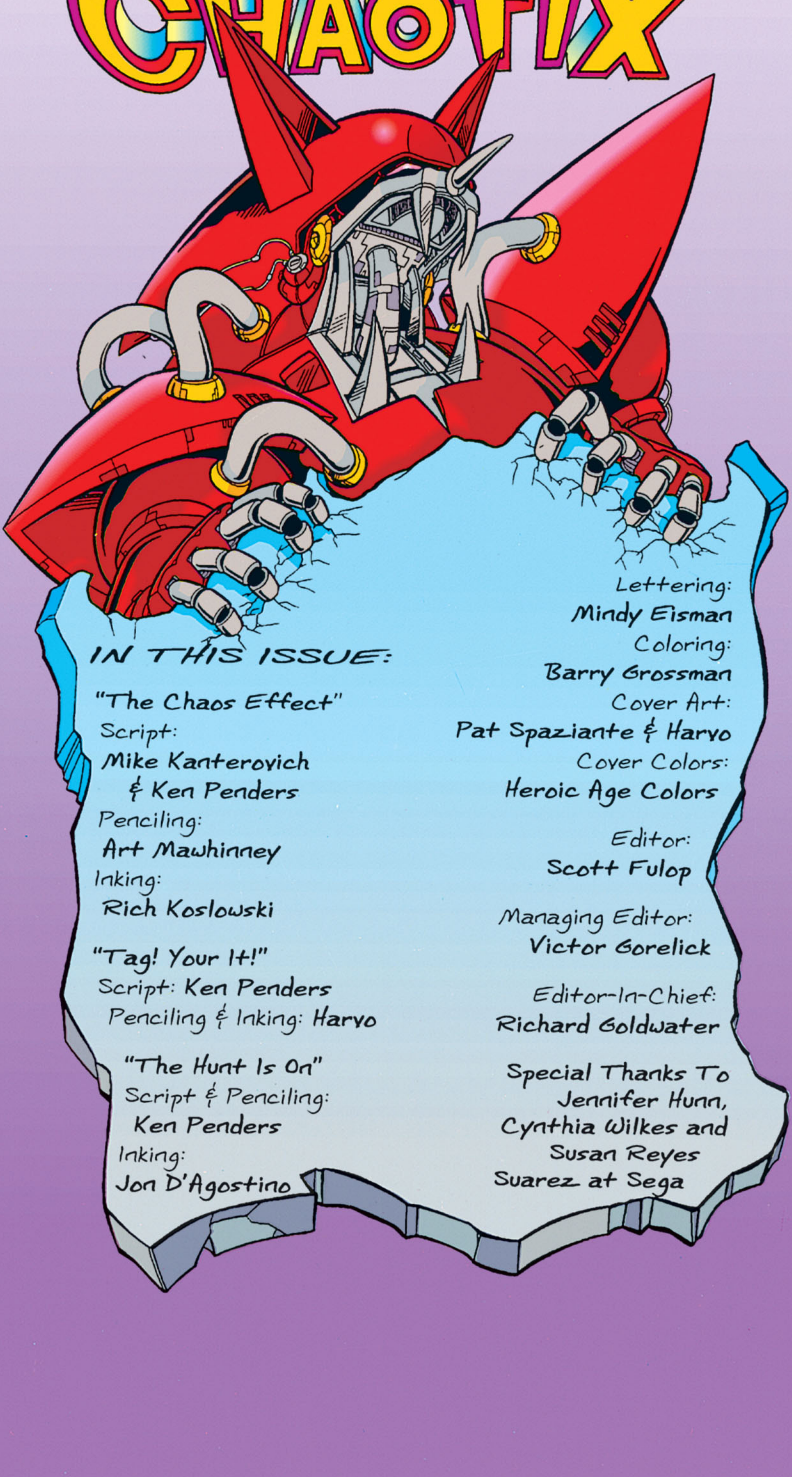

IN THIS ISSUE:

"The Chaos Effect"
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"Tag! Your It!"
Script: Ken Penders
Penciling & Inking: Harvo

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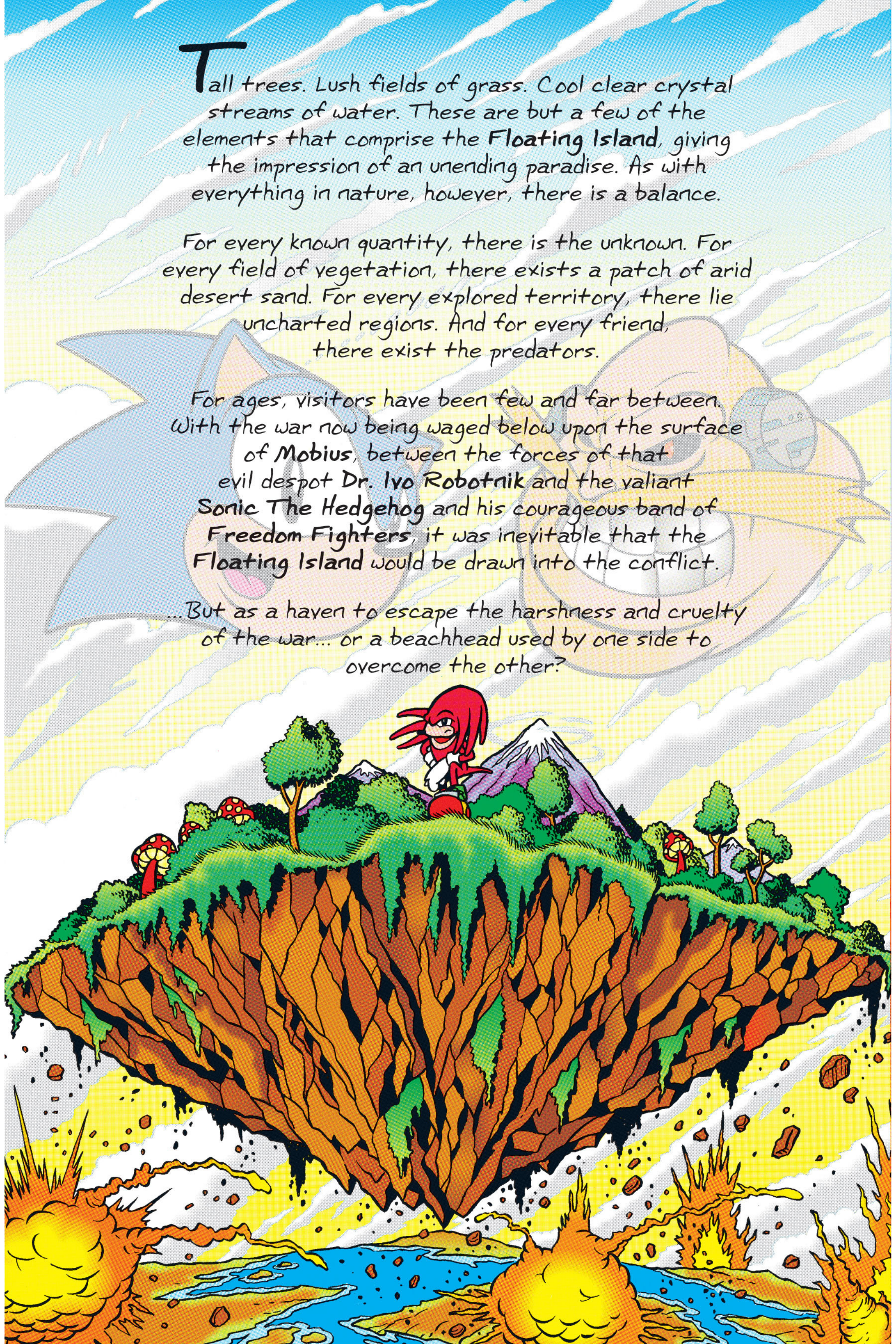
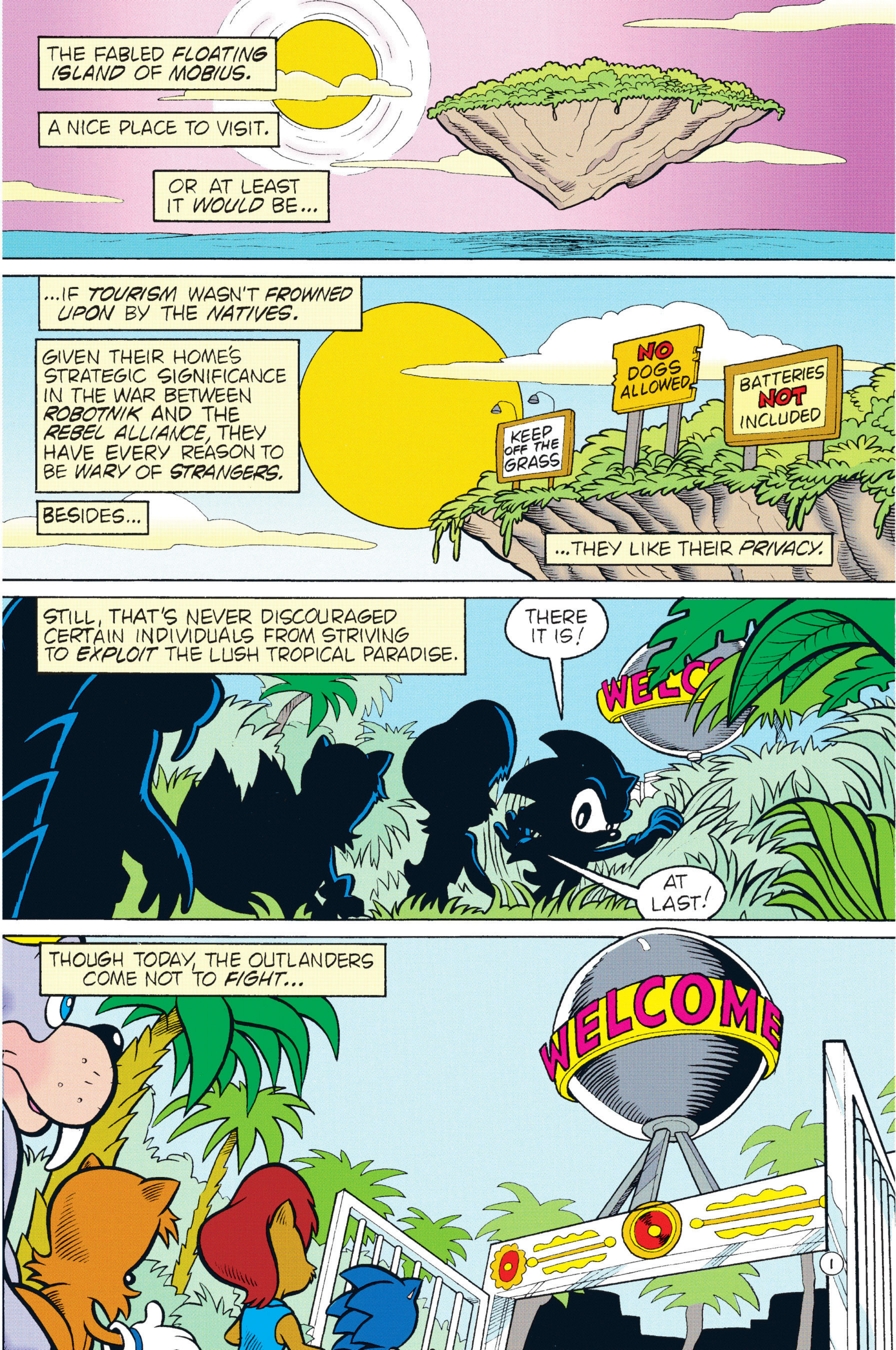
Tall trees. Lush fields of grass. Cool clear crystal streams of water. These are but a few of the elements that comprise the **Floating Island**, giving the impression of an unending paradise. As with everything in nature, however, there is a balance.

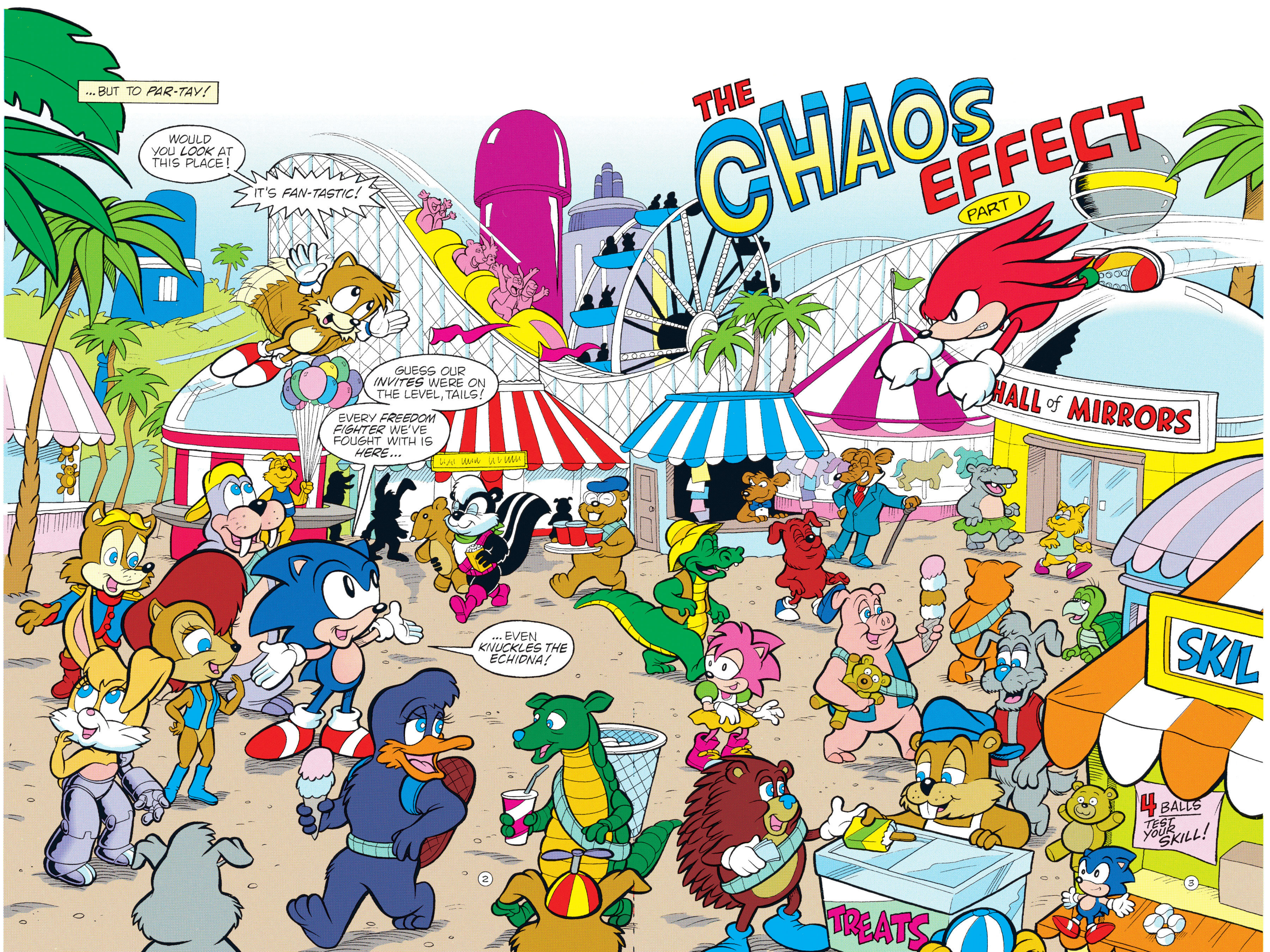
For every known quantity, there is the unknown. For every field of vegetation, there exists a patch of arid desert sand. For every explored territory, there lie uncharted regions. And for every friend, there exist the predators.

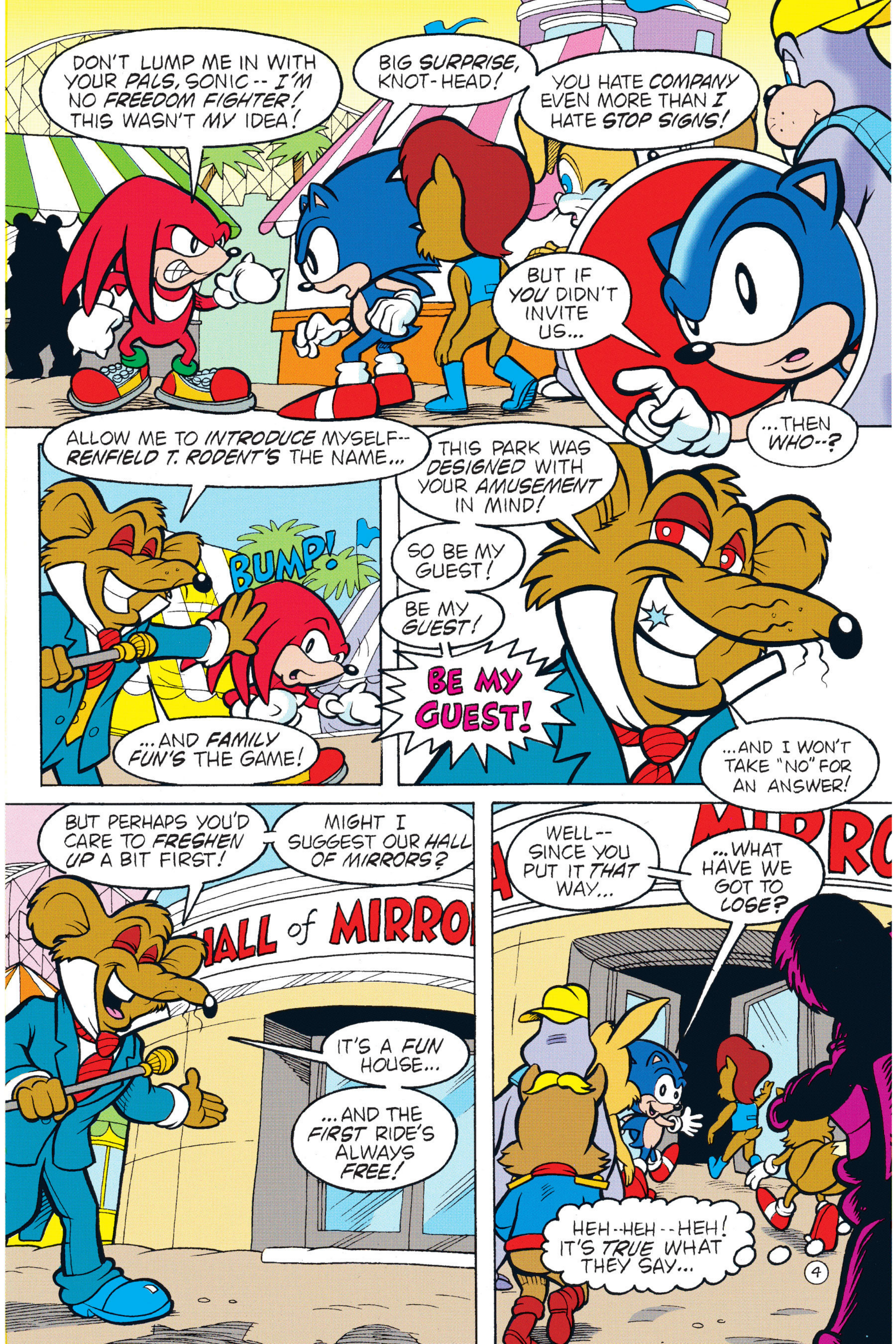
For ages, visitors have been few and far between. With the war now being waged below upon the surface of **Mobius**, between the forces of that evil despot **Dr. Ivo Robotnik** and the valiant **Sonic The Hedgehog** and his courageous band of **Freedom Fighters**, it was inevitable that the **Floating Island** would be drawn into the conflict.

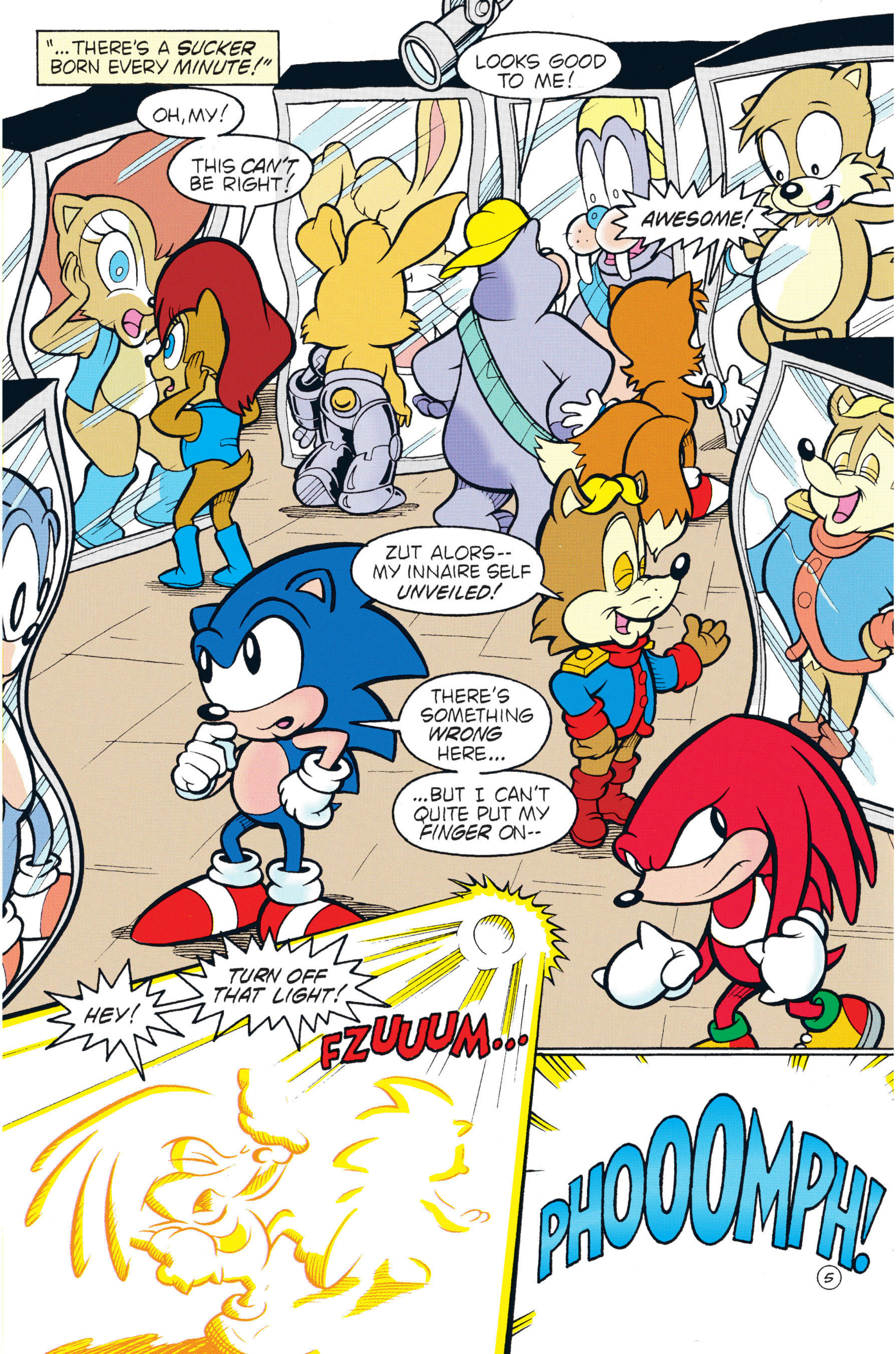
...But as a haven to escape the harshness and cruelty of the war... or a beachhead used by one side to overcome the other?

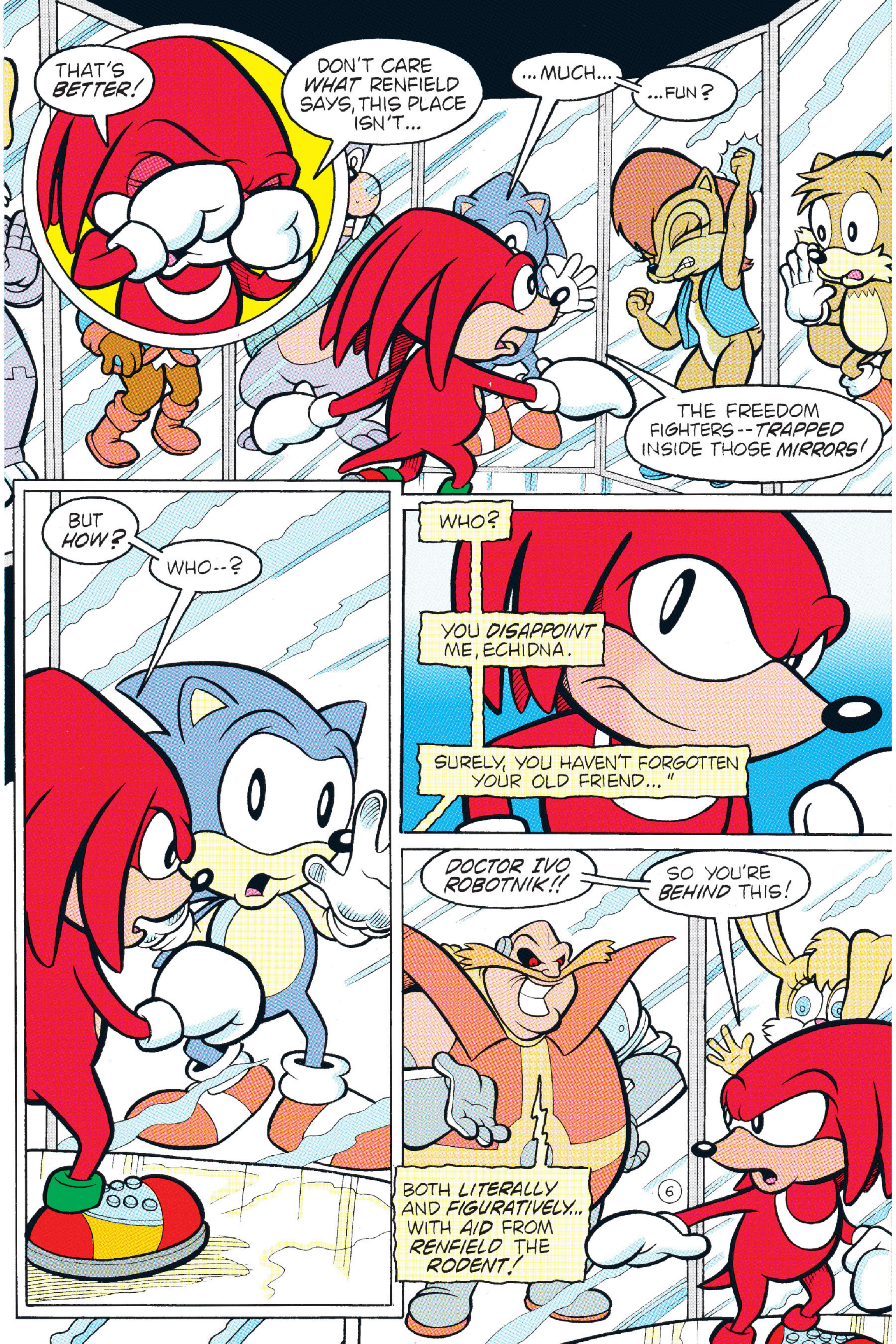


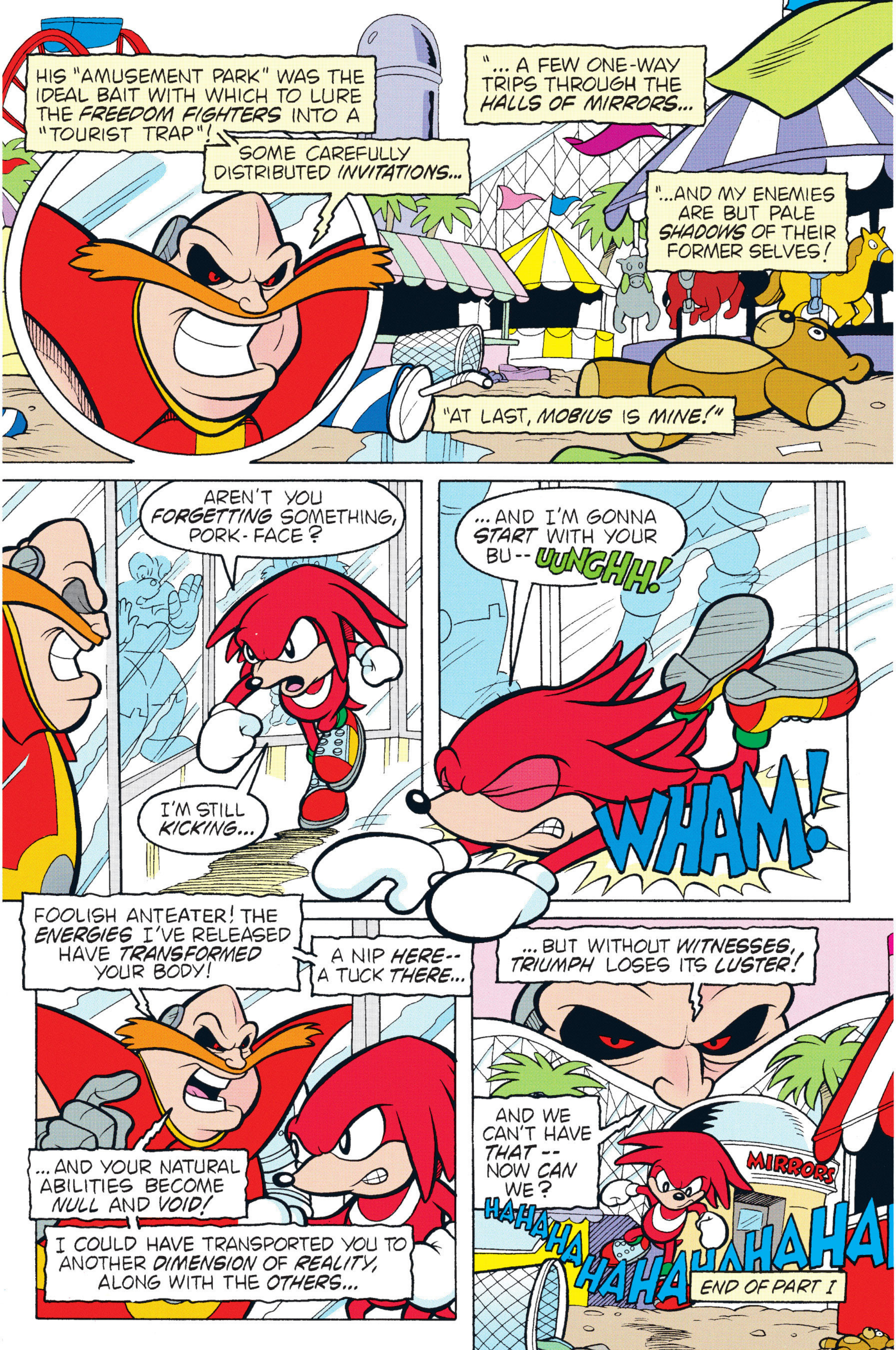

THE FABLED *FLOATING ISLAND* OF *MOBIUS.*
A NICE PLACE TO VISIT.
OR AT LEAST IT *WOULD* BE...
...IF *TOURISM* WASN'T *FROWNED UPON* BY THE *NATIVES.*
GIVEN THEIR HOME'S STRATEGIC SIGNIFICANCE IN THE WAR BETWEEN *ROBOTNIK* AND THE *REBEL ALLIANCE,* THEY HAVE EVERY REASON TO BE *WARY* OF *STRANGERS.*
BESIDES...
NO DOGS ALLOWED
BATTERIES NOT INCLUDED
KEEP OFF THE GRASS
...THEY LIKE THEIR *PRIVACY.*
STILL, THAT'S NEVER DISCOURAGED CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS FROM STRIVING TO *EXPLOIT* THE LUSH TROPICAL PARADISE.
THERE IT IS!
WELCO
AT LAST!
THOUGH TODAY, THE OUTLANDERS COME NOT TO *FIGHT...*
WELCOME


...BUT TO *PAR-TAY!*
WOULD YOU *LOOK* AT THIS PLACE!
IT'S *FAN-TASTIC!*
THE CHAOS EFFECT
PART 1
GUESS OUR *INVITES* WERE ON THE LEVEL, TAILS!
EVERY *FREEDOM FIGHTER* WE'VE FOUGHT WITH IS *HERE...*
...EVEN *KNUCKLES* THE ECHIDNA!
HALL of MIRRORS
SKIL
4 BALLS TEST YOUR *SKILL!*
TREATS


DON'T LUMP ME IN WITH YOUR PALS, SONIC -- I'M NO FREEDOM FIGHTER! THIS WASN'T MY IDEA!
BIG SURPRISE, KNOT-HEAD!
YOU HATE COMPANY EVEN MORE THAN I HATE STOP SIGNS!
BUT IF YOU DIDN'T INVITE US...
...THEN WHO--?
ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE MYSELF-- RENFIELD T. RODENT'S THE NAME...
BUMP!
...AND FAMILY FUN'S THE GAME!
THIS PARK WAS DESIGNED WITH YOUR AMUSEMENT IN MIND!
SO BE MY GUEST!
BE MY GUEST!
BE MY GUEST!
...AND I WON'T TAKE "NO" FOR AN ANSWER!
BUT PERHAPS YOU'D CARE TO FRESHEN UP A BIT FIRST!
MIGHT I SUGGEST OUR HALL OF MIRRORS?
HALL of MIRRO
IT'S A FUN HOUSE...
...AND THE FIRST RIDE'S ALWAYS FREE!
MIRRO
WELL-- SINCE YOU PUT IT THAT WAY...
...WHAT HAVE WE GOT TO LOSE?
HEH--HEH--HEH! IT'S TRUE WHAT THEY SAY...

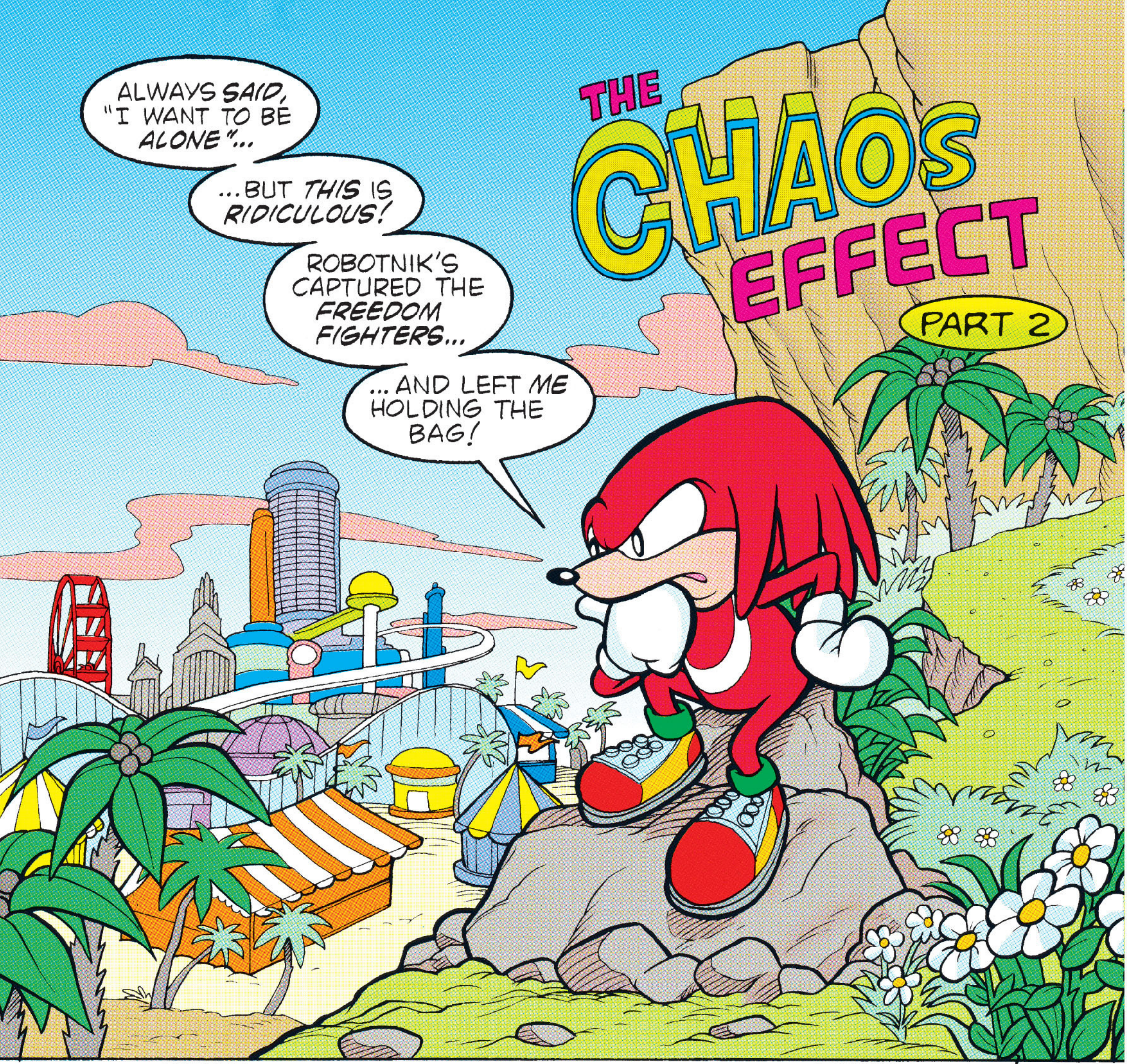

"...THERE'S A *SUCKER* BORN EVERY *MINUTE!*"
OH, MY!
THIS *CAN'T* BE RIGHT!
LOOKS GOOD TO ME!
AWESOME!
ZUT ALORS-- MY INNAIRE SELF *UNVEILED!*
THERE'S SOMETHING *WRONG* HERE...
...BUT I CAN'T QUITE PUT MY *FINGER* ON--
HEY!
TURN OFF THAT LIGHT!
FZUUUM...
PHOOOMPH!

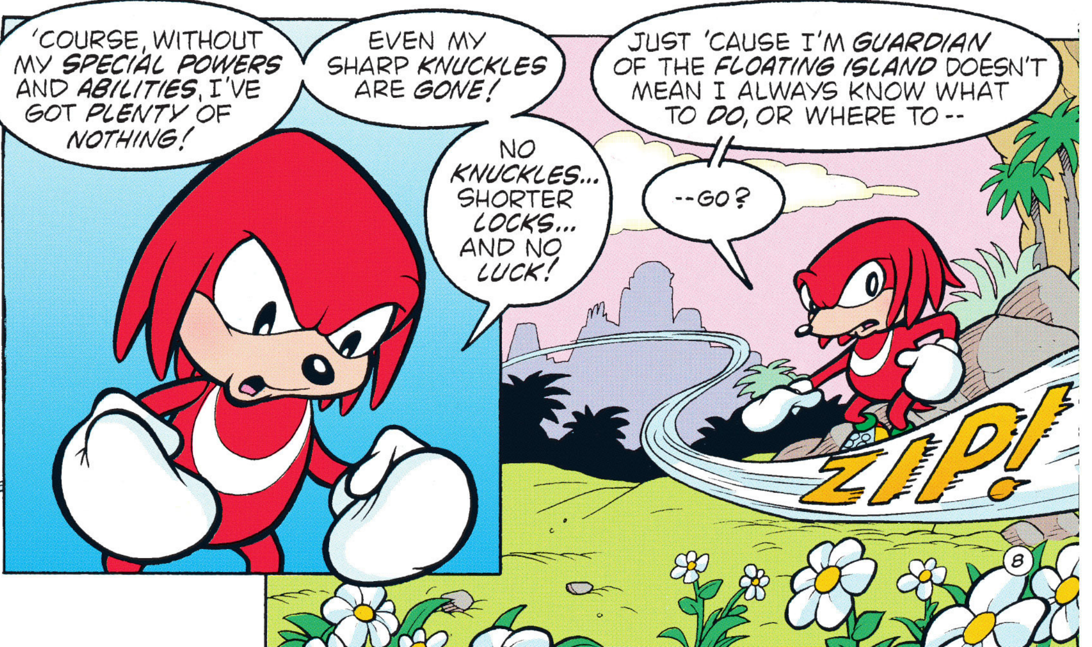

THAT'S *BETTER!*
DON'T CARE *WHAT* RENFIELD SAYS, THIS PLACE ISN'T...
...MUCH...
...FUN?
THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS--*TRAPPED* INSIDE THOSE *MIRRORS!*
BUT *HOW?*
WHO--?
WHO?
YOU *DISAPPOINT* ME, ECHIDNA.
SURELY, YOU HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN YOUR OLD FRIEND..."
DOCTOR IVO ROBOTNIK!!
SO YOU'RE *BEHIND* THIS!
BOTH *LITERALLY* AND *FIGURATIVELY*... WITH *AID* FROM *RENFIELD* THE *RODENT!*

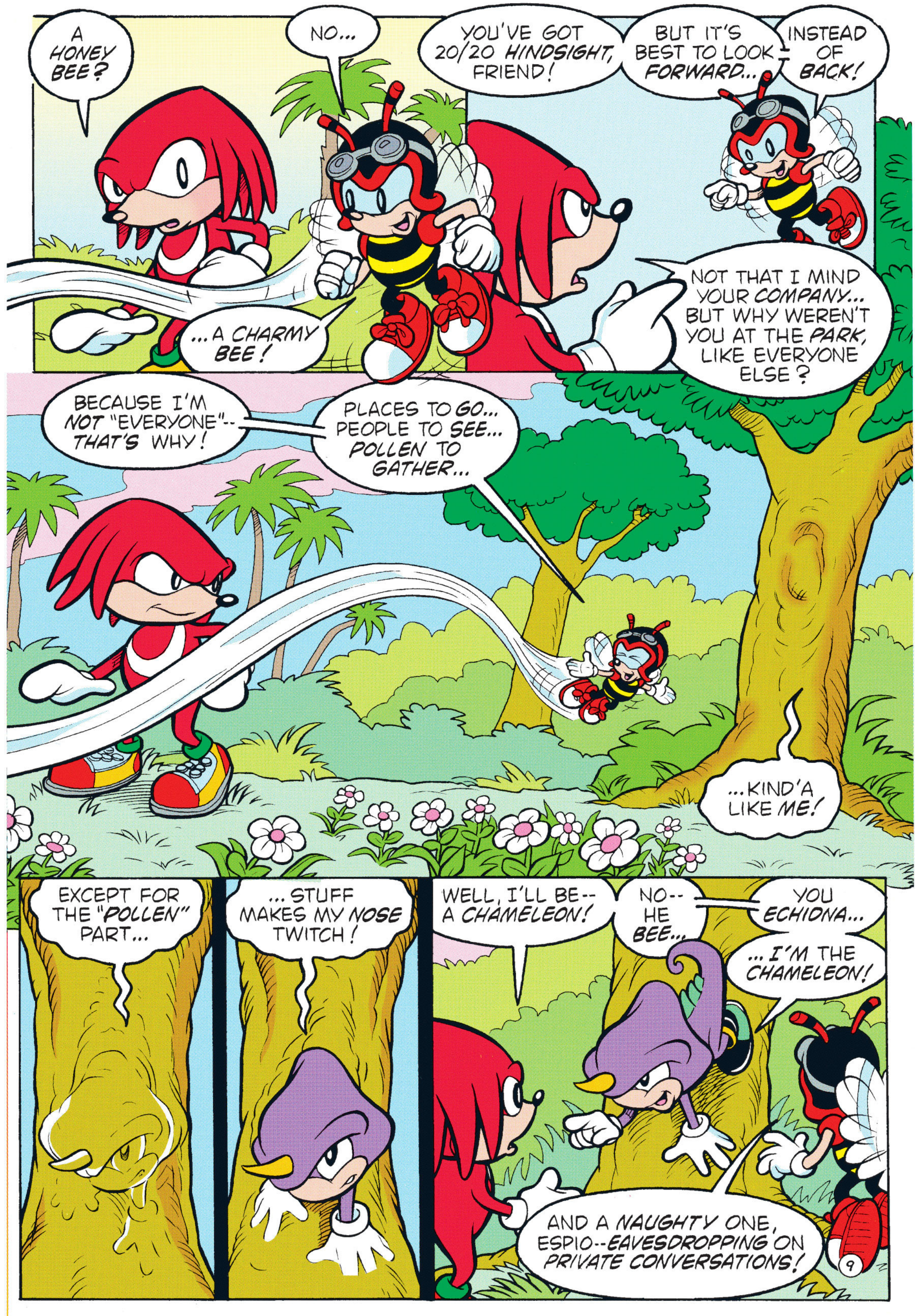

HIS "AMUSEMENT PARK" WAS THE IDEAL BAIT WITH WHICH TO LURE THE *FREEDOM FIGHTERS* INTO A "TOURIST TRAP"!
SOME CAREFULLY DISTRIBUTED *INVITATIONS...*
"... A FEW ONE-WAY TRIPS THROUGH THE *HALLS OF MIRRORS...*
"...AND MY ENEMIES ARE BUT PALE *SHADOWS* OF THEIR FORMER SELVES!
"AT LAST, *MOBIUS* IS *MINE!*"
AREN'T YOU *FORGETTING* SOMETHING, PORK-FACE?
I'M STILL *KICKING...*
...AND I'M GONNA *START* WITH YOUR BU-- *UUNGHH!*
WHAM!
FOOLISH ANTEATER! THE *ENERGIES* I'VE RELEASED HAVE *TRANSFORMED* YOUR BODY!
A NIP *HERE*-- A TUCK *THERE...*
...AND YOUR NATURAL ABILITIES BECOME *NULL* AND *VOID!*
I COULD HAVE TRANSPORTED YOU TO ANOTHER *DIMENSION OF REALITY,* ALONG WITH THE *OTHERS...*
... BUT WITHOUT *WITNESSES, TRIUMPH* LOSES ITS *LUSTER!*
AND WE CAN'T HAVE *THAT* -- NOW *CAN* WE?
MIRRORS
HAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA
END OF PART I

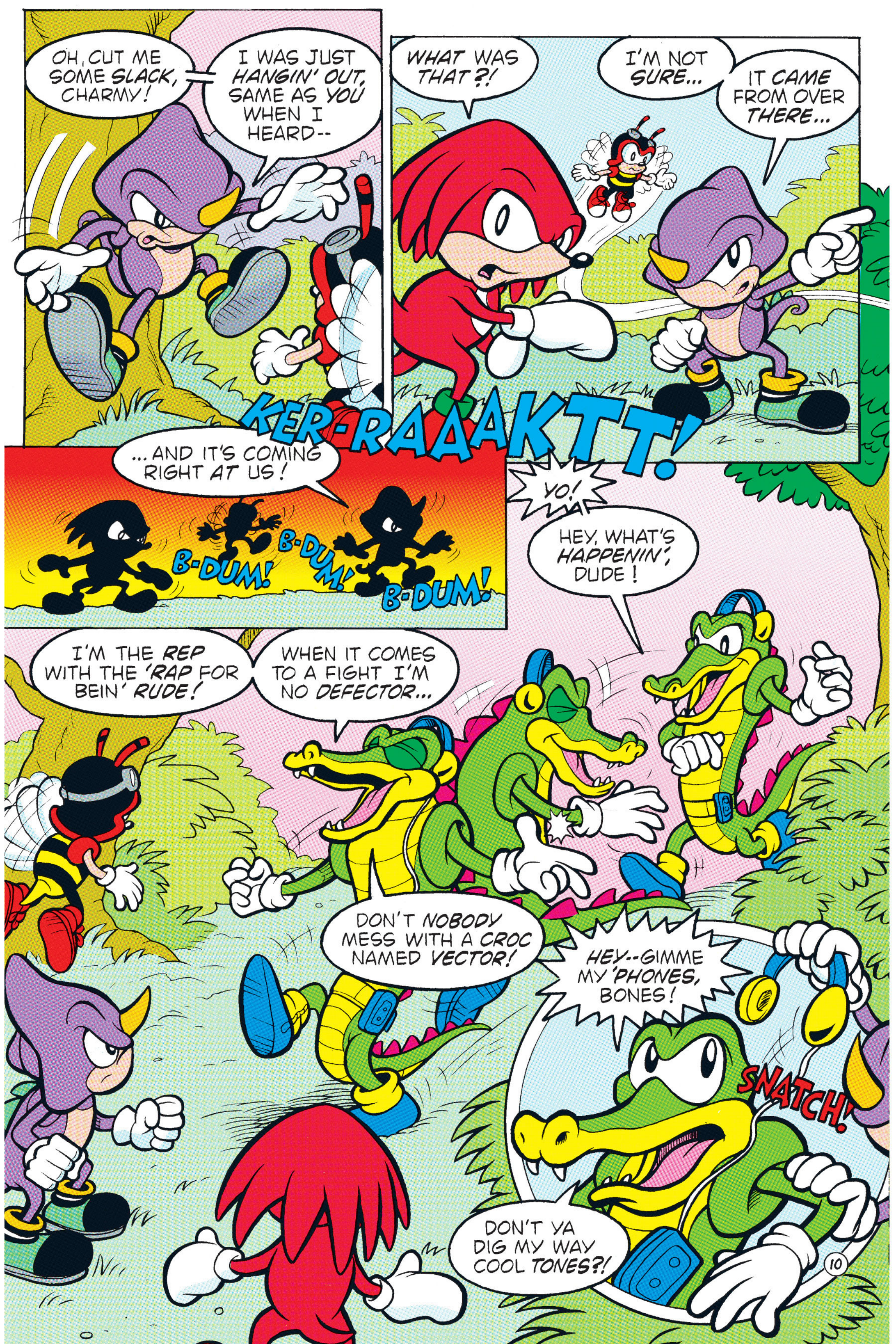
THE CHAOS EFFECT

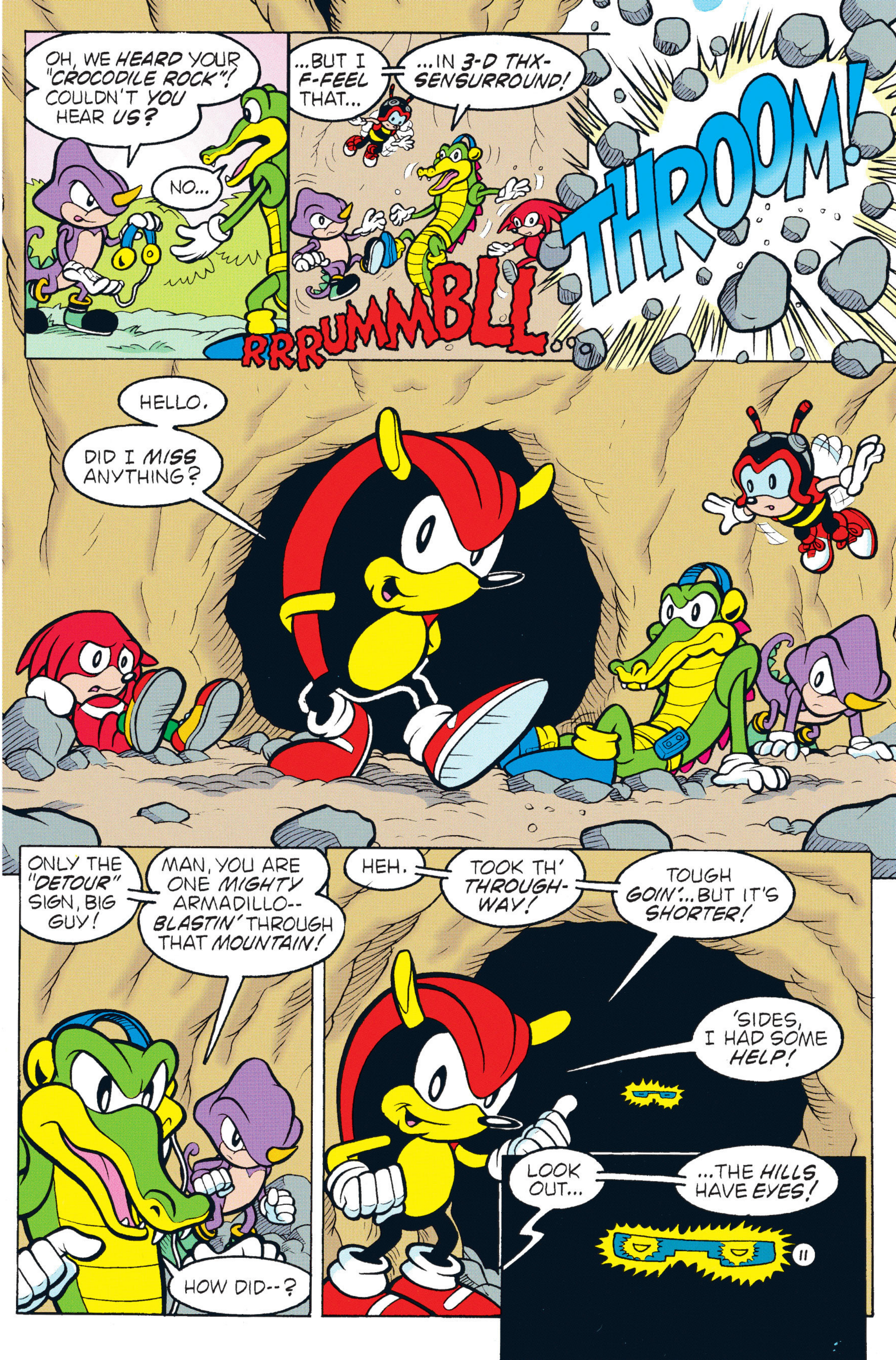
PART 2

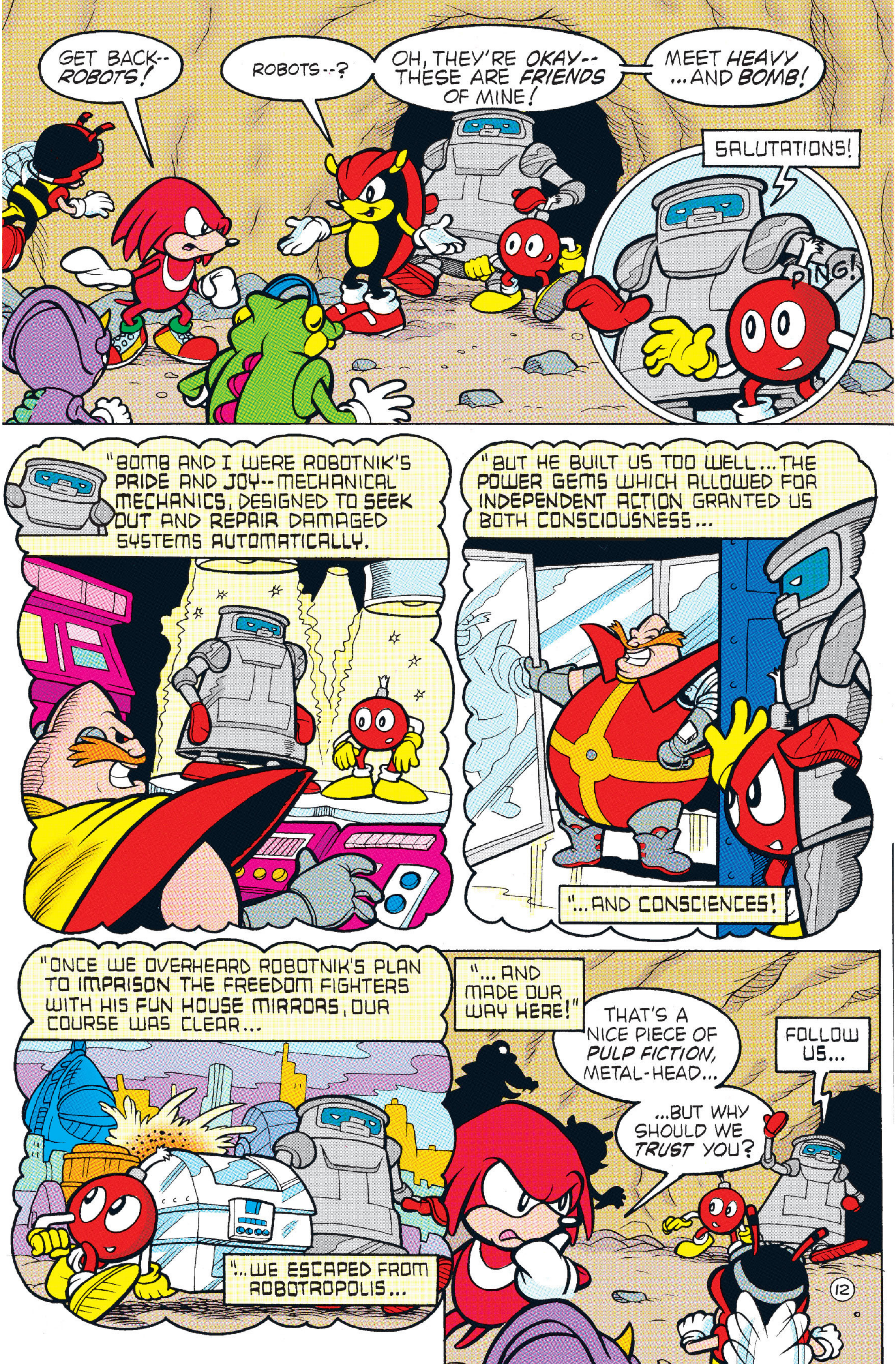

ALWAYS *SAID*, "I WANT TO BE *ALONE*"...
...BUT *THIS* IS *RIDICULOUS!*
ROBOTNIK'S CAPTURED THE *FREEDOM FIGHTERS*...
...AND LEFT *ME* HOLDING THE BAG!

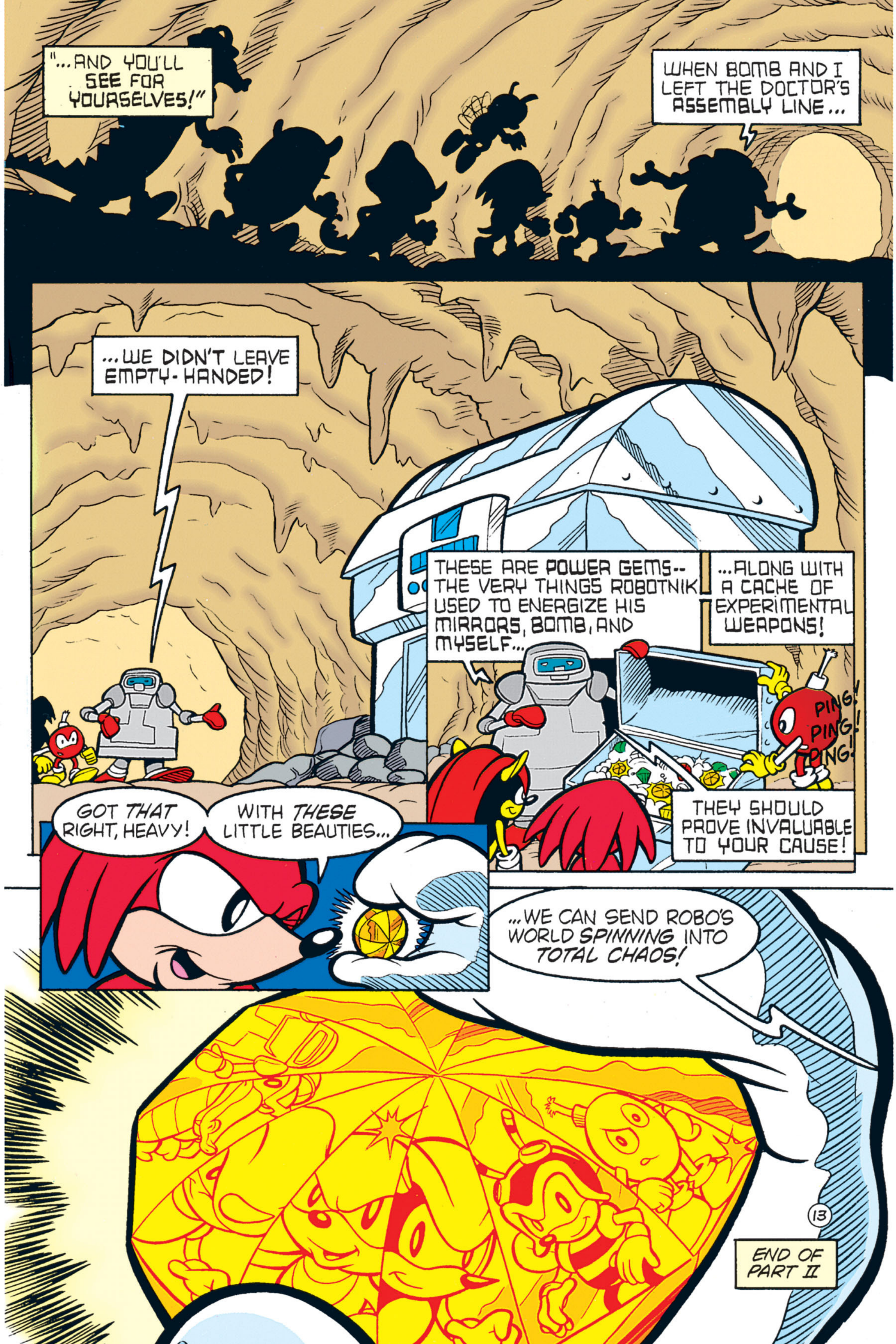

'COURSE, WITHOUT MY *SPECIAL POWERS* AND *ABILITIES*, I'VE GOT *PLENTY* OF *NOTHING!*
EVEN MY SHARP *KNUCKLES* ARE *GONE!*
NO *KNUCKLES*... SHORTER *LOCKS*... AND NO *LUCK!*
JUST 'CAUSE I'M *GUARDIAN* OF THE *FLOATING ISLAND* DOESN'T MEAN I ALWAYS KNOW WHAT TO *DO*, OR WHERE TO --
--GO?
ZIP!

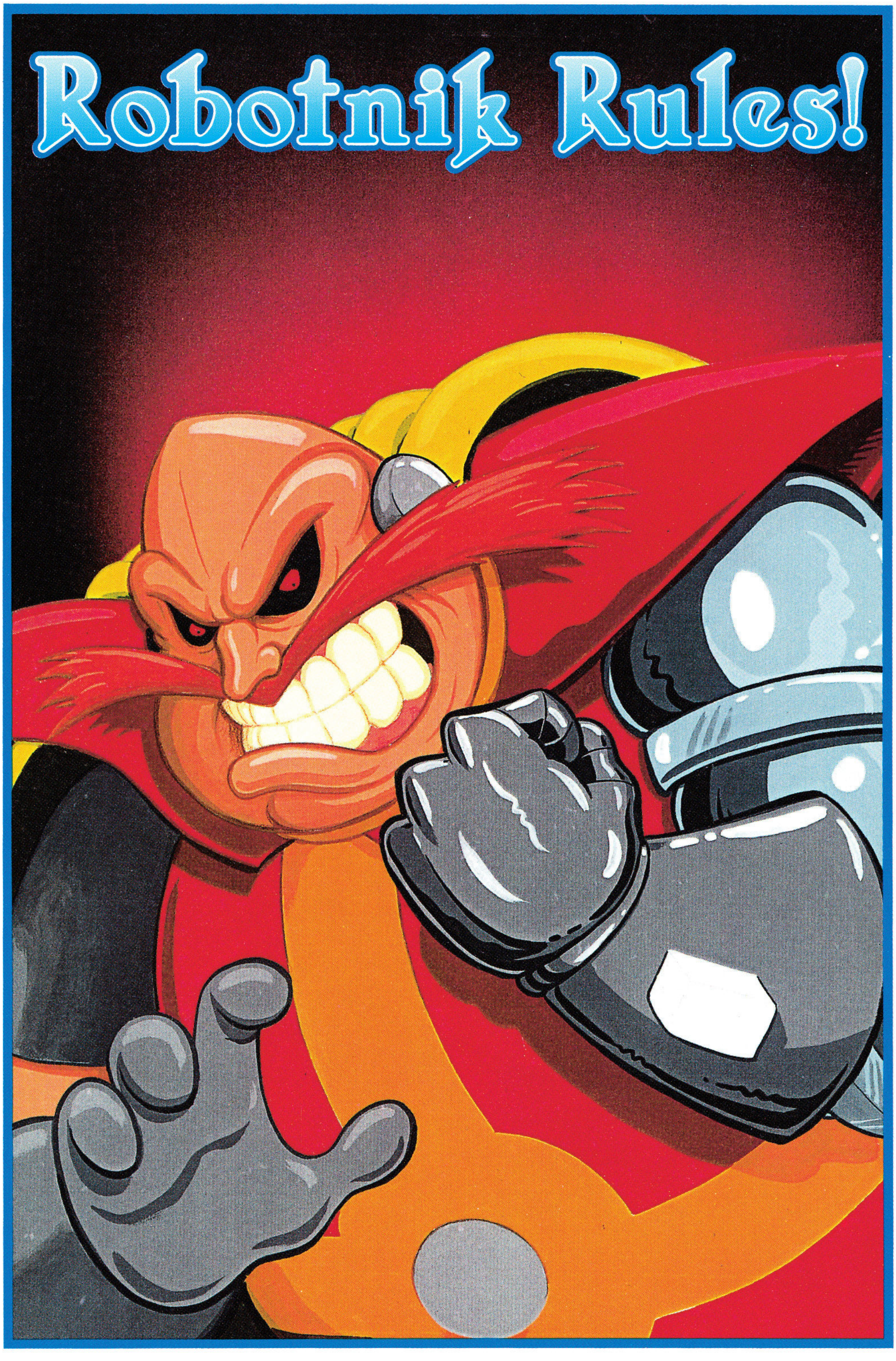

A *HONEY BEE?*
NO...
...A *CHARMY BEE!*
YOU'VE GOT 20/20 *HINDSIGHT,* FRIEND!
BUT IT'S BEST TO LOOK *FORWARD*...
INSTEAD OF *BACK!*
NOT THAT I MIND YOUR *COMPANY*... BUT WHY WEREN'T YOU AT THE *PARK,* LIKE EVERYONE ELSE?
BECAUSE I'M *NOT* "EVERYONE"-- *THAT'S* WHY!
PLACES TO *GO*... PEOPLE TO *SEE*... *POLLEN* TO *GATHER*...
...KIND'A LIKE *ME!*
EXCEPT FOR THE "*POLLEN*" PART...
... STUFF MAKES MY *NOSE* TWITCH!
WELL, I'LL BE-- A *CHAMELEON!*
NO-- HE *BEE*...
YOU *ECHIONA*...
... *I'M* THE *CHAMELEON!*
AND A *NAUGHTY* ONE, ESPIO--*EAVESDROPPING* ON *PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS!*


OH, CUT ME SOME *SLACK*, CHARMY!
I WAS JUST *HANGIN' OUT*, SAME AS *YOU* WHEN I HEARD--
WHAT WAS *THAT*?!
I'M NOT *SURE*...
IT *CAME* FROM OVER *THERE*...
KER-RAAAKTT!
...AND IT'S COMING RIGHT *AT* US!
B-DUM!
B-DUM!
B-DUM!
YO!
HEY, WHAT'S *HAPPENIN'*, DUDE!
I'M THE *REP* WITH THE *'RAP* FOR BEIN' *RUDE*!
WHEN IT COMES TO A FIGHT I'M NO *DEFECTOR*...
DON'T *NOBODY* MESS WITH A *CROC* NAMED *VECTOR*!
HEY--GIMME MY *'PHONES*, BONES!
SNATCH!
DON'T YA DIG MY WAY COOL *TONES*?!


OH, WE *HEARD* YOUR *"CROCODILE ROCK"*! COULDN'T *YOU* HEAR *US?*
NO...
...BUT I *F-FEEL* THAT...
...IN *3-D THX-SENSURROUND!*
RRRUMMBLL...
THROOM!
HELLO.
DID I *MISS* ANYTHING?
ONLY THE *"DETOUR"* SIGN, BIG GUY!
MAN, YOU ARE ONE *MIGHTY* ARMADILLO-- *BLASTIN'* THROUGH THAT *MOUNTAIN!*
HOW DID--?
HEH.
TOOK TH' *THROUGH-WAY!*
TOUGH *GOIN'*...BUT IT'S *SHORTER!*
'SIDES, I HAD SOME *HELP!*
LOOK OUT...
...THE *HILLS* HAVE *EYES!*

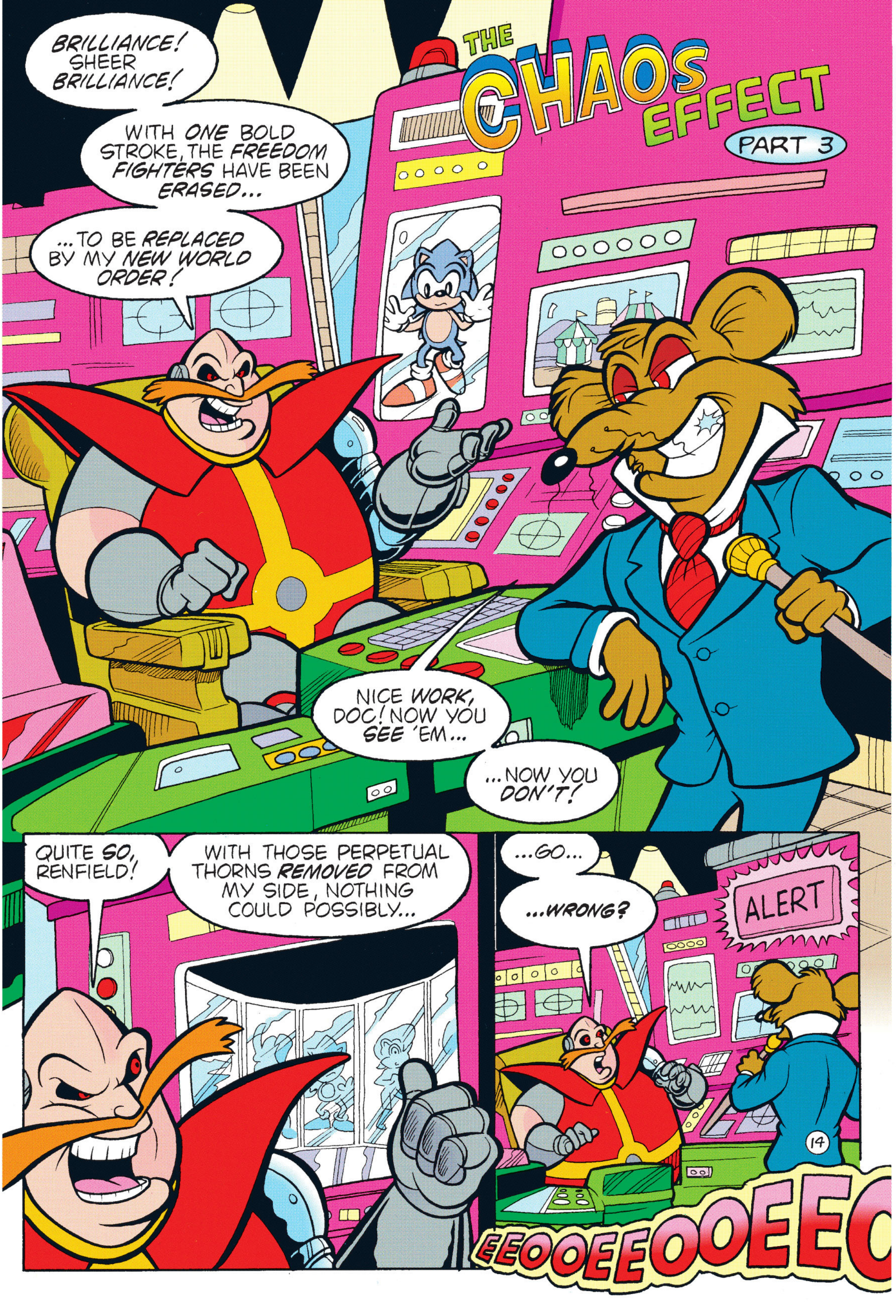

GET BACK-- *ROBOTS!*
ROBOTS--?
OH, THEY'RE *OKAY*-- THESE ARE *FRIENDS* OF MINE!
MEET *HEAVY* ...AND *BOMB!*
SALUTATIONS!
PING!
"BOMB AND I WERE ROBOTNIK'S **PRIDE** AND **JOY**--MECHANICAL **MECHANICS**, DESIGNED TO **SEEK** OUT AND **REPAIR** DAMAGED SYSTEMS **AUTOMATICALLY**.
"BUT HE BUILT US TOO WELL... THE **POWER GEMS** WHICH ALLOWED FOR **INDEPENDENT ACTION** GRANTED US BOTH **CONSCIOUSNESS**...
"...AND **CONSCIENCES!**
"ONCE WE OVERHEARD ROBOTNIK'S PLAN TO **IMPRISON** THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS WITH HIS **FUN HOUSE MIRRORS**, OUR COURSE WAS CLEAR...
"...WE ESCAPED FROM ROBOTROPOLIS...
"...AND MADE OUR WAY **HERE!**"
THAT'S A NICE PIECE OF *PULP FICTION*, METAL-HEAD...
...BUT WHY SHOULD WE *TRUST* YOU?
FOLLOW US...

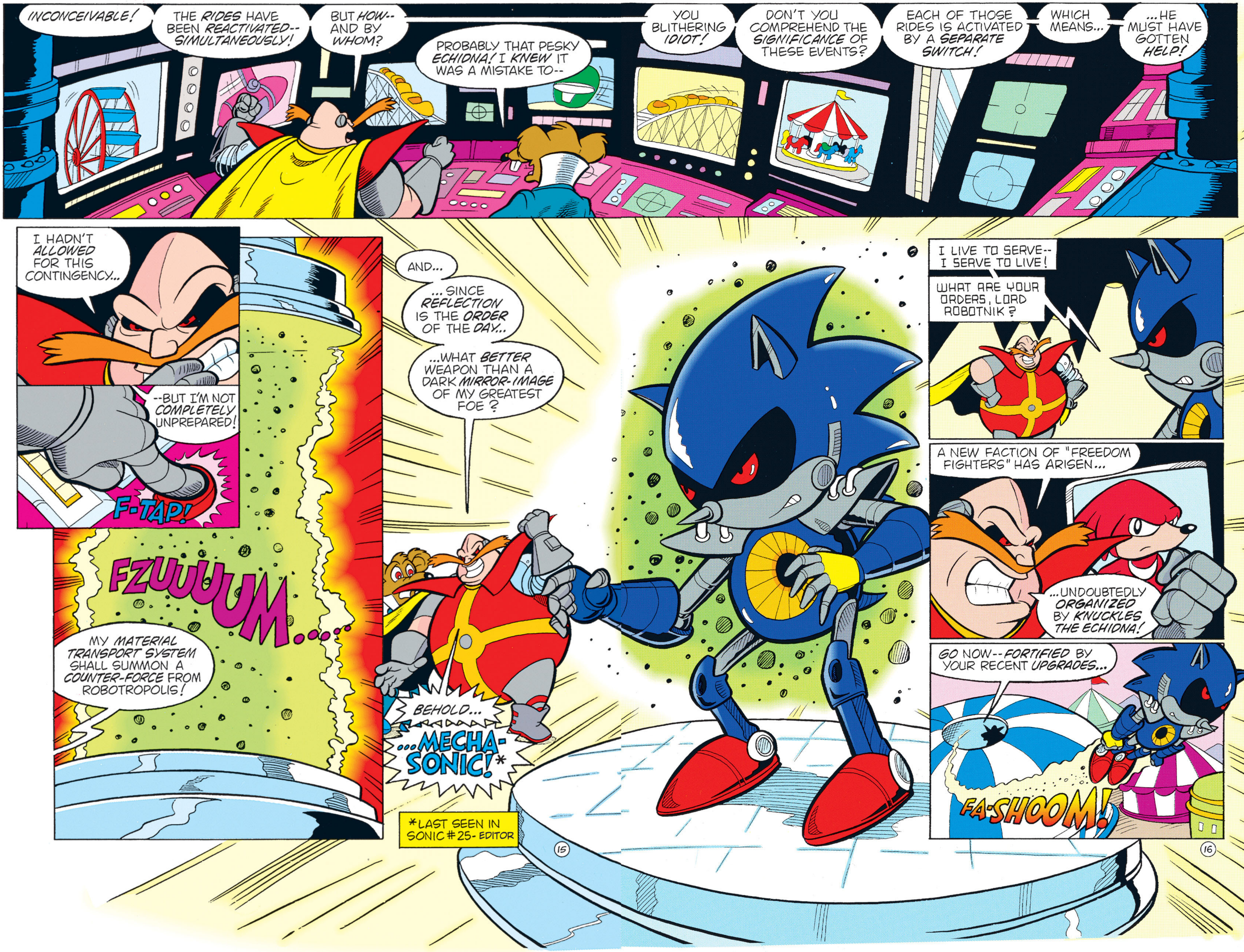

"...AND YOU'LL SEE FOR YOURSELVES!"
WHEN BOMB AND I LEFT THE DOCTOR'S ASSEMBLY LINE...
...WE DIDN'T LEAVE EMPTY-HANDED!
THESE ARE POWER GEMS-- THE VERY THINGS ROBOTNIK USED TO ENERGIZE HIS MIRRORS, BOMB, AND MYSELF...
...ALONG WITH A CACHE OF EXPERIMENTAL WEAPONS!
PING! PING! PING!
THEY SHOULD PROVE INVALUABLE TO YOUR CAUSE!
GOT THAT RIGHT, HEAVY!
WITH THESE LITTLE BEAUTIES...
...WE CAN SEND ROBO'S WORLD SPINNING INTO TOTAL CHAOS!
END OF PART II

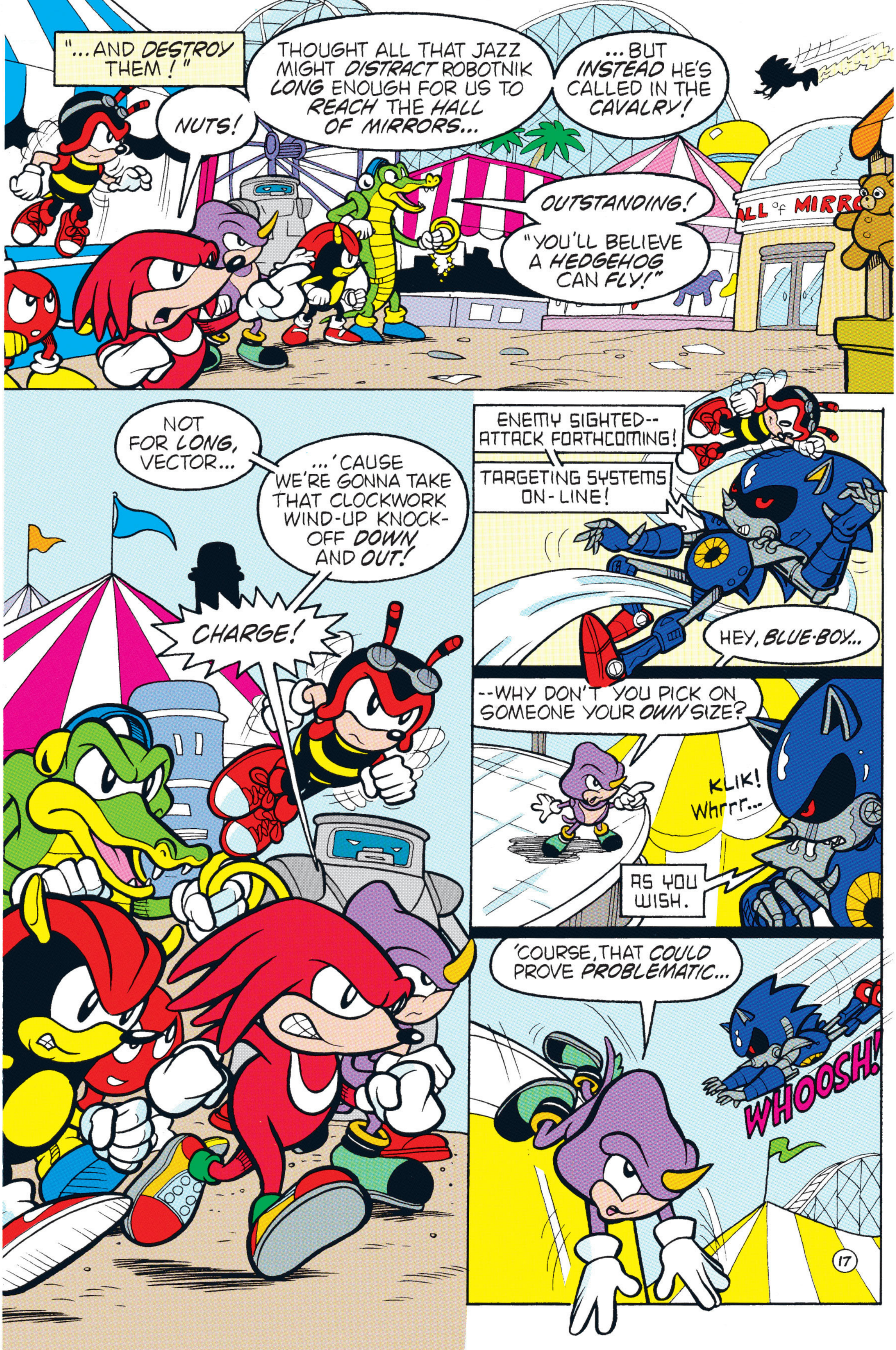

Robotnik Rules!

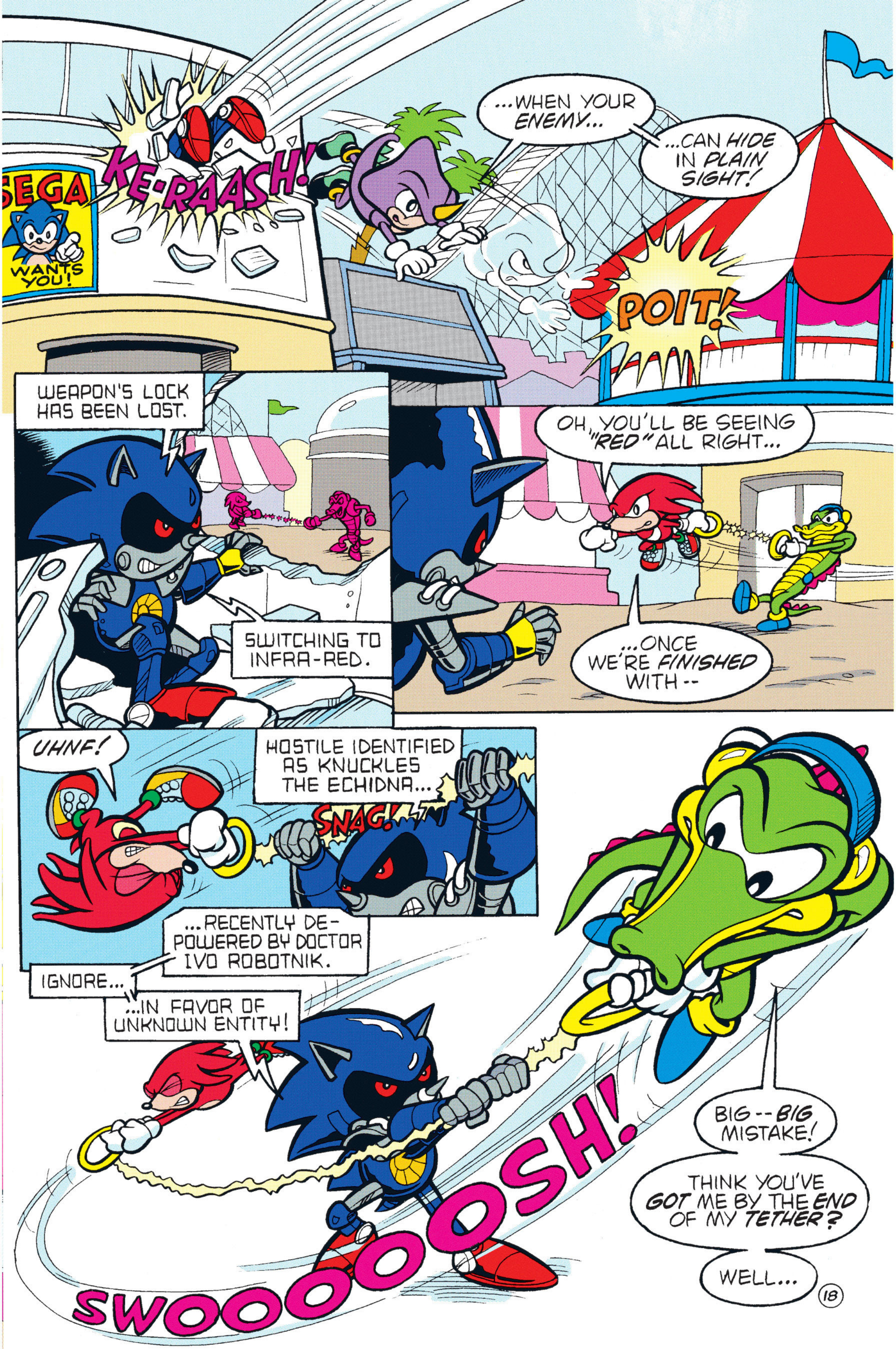
THE CHAOS EFFECT

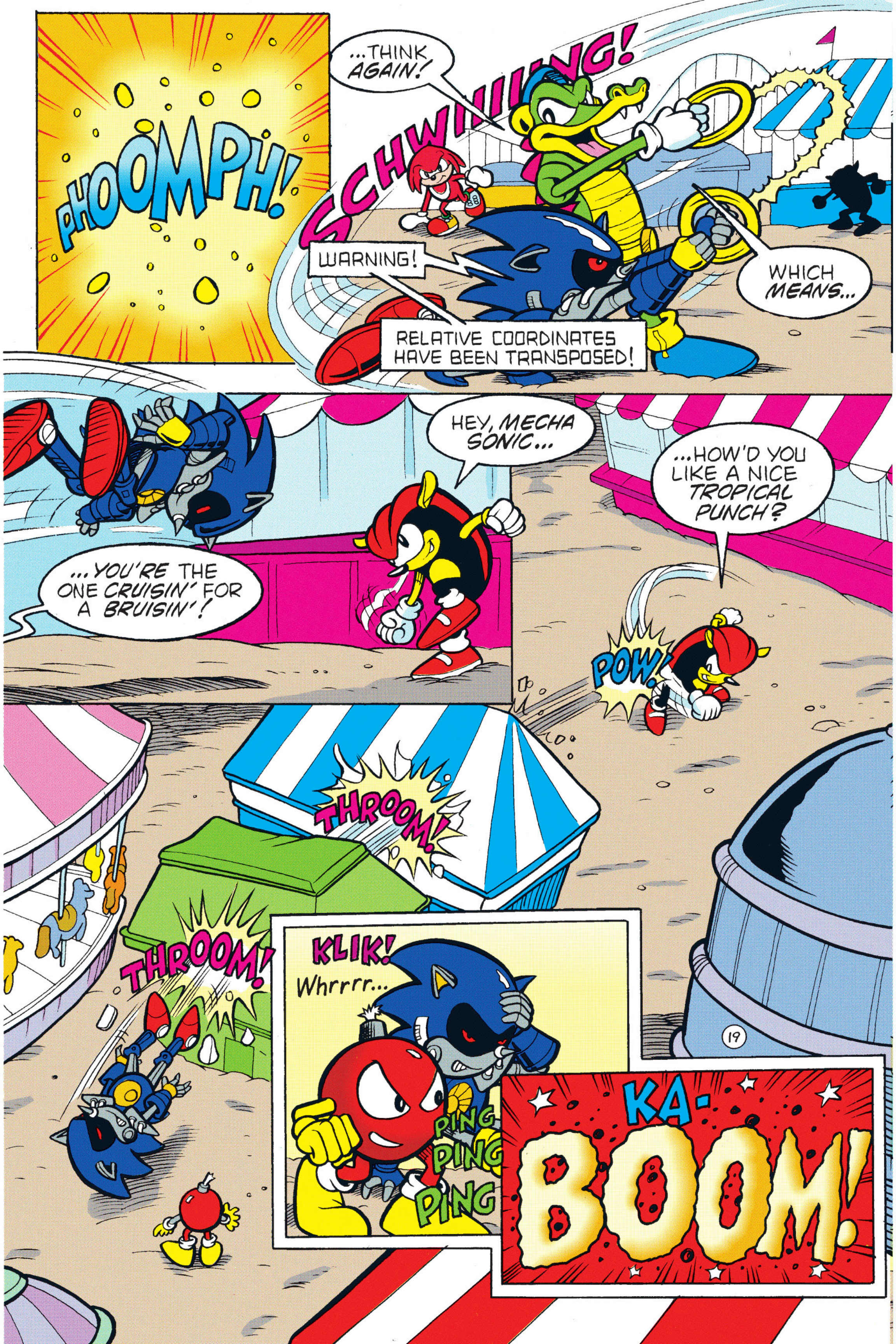
PART 3

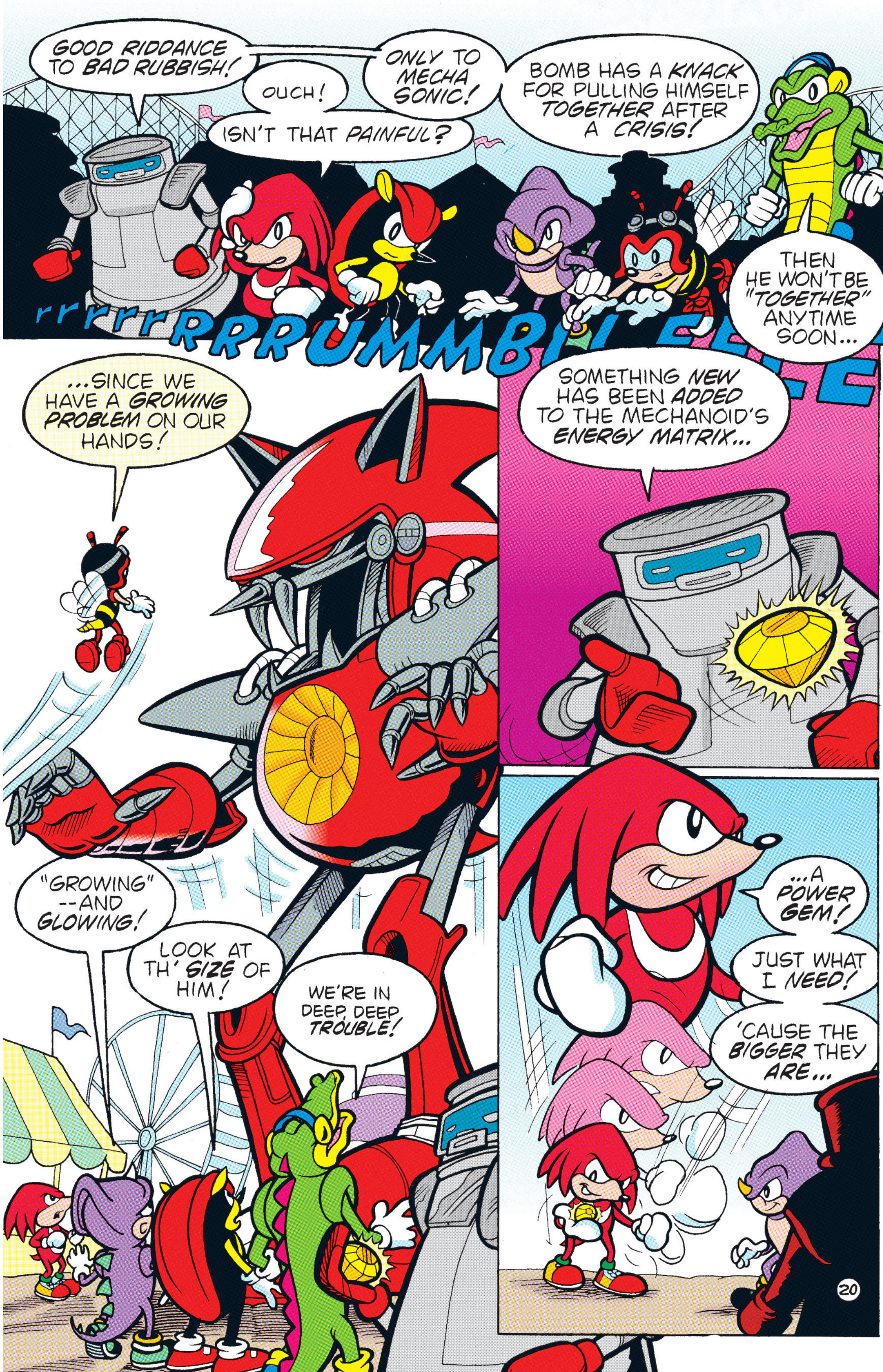

BRILLIANCE! SHEER BRILLIANCE!
WITH ONE BOLD STROKE, THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS HAVE BEEN ERASED...
...TO BE REPLACED BY MY NEW WORLD ORDER!
NICE WORK, DOC! NOW YOU SEE 'EM...
...NOW YOU DON'T!
QUITE SO, RENFIELD!
WITH THOSE PERPETUAL THORNS REMOVED FROM MY SIDE, NOTHING COULD POSSIBLY...
...GO...
...WRONG?
ALERT
EEOOEEOOEEC

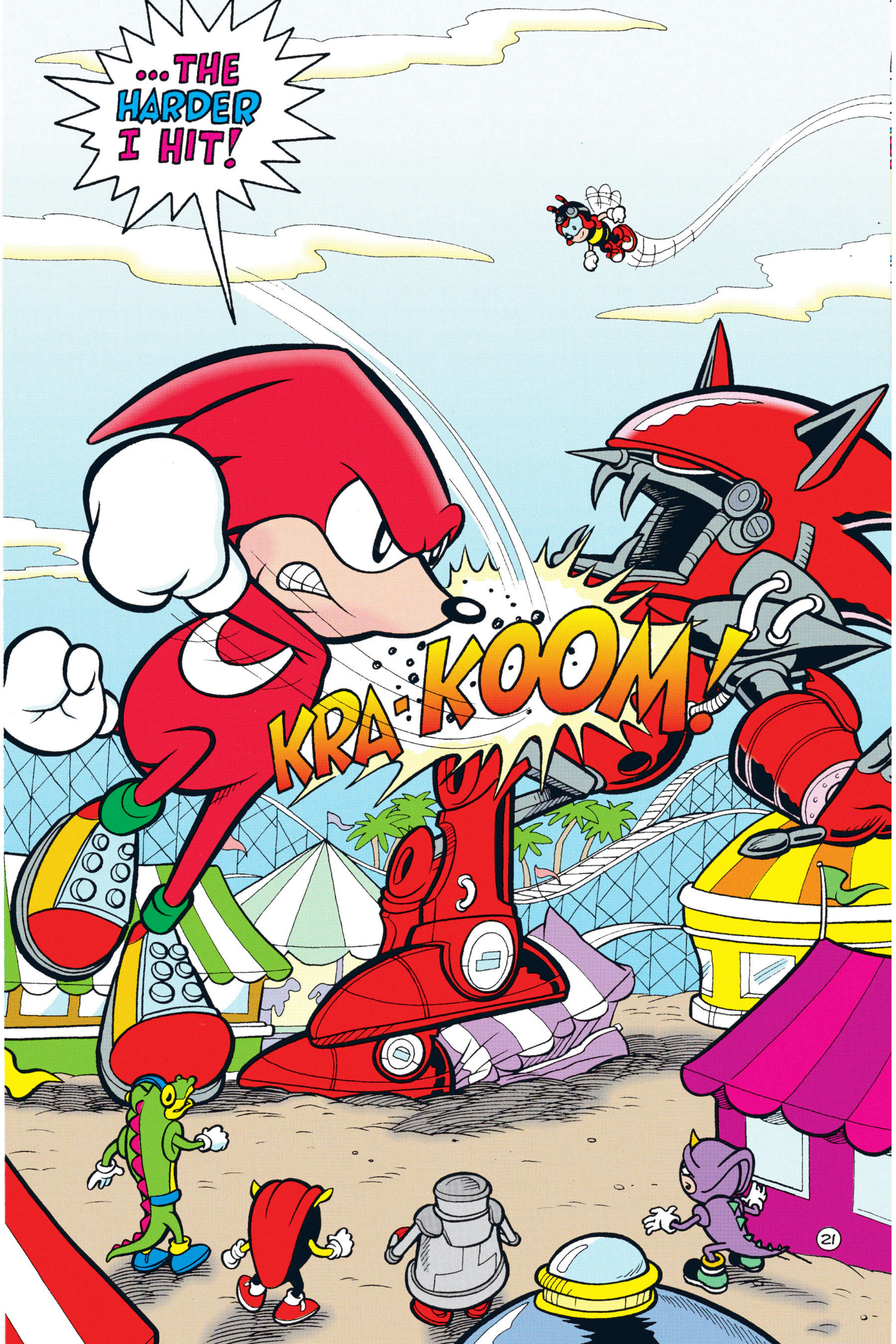

INCONCEIVABLE!
THE RIDES HAVE BEEN REACTIVATED-- SIMULTANEOUSLY!
BUT HOW-- AND BY WHOM?
PROBABLY THAT PESKY ECHIDNA! I KNEW IT WAS A MISTAKE TO--
YOU BLITHERING IDIOT!
DON'T YOU COMPREHEND THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THESE EVENTS?
EACH OF THOSE RIDES IS ACTIVATED BY A SEPARATE SWITCH!
WHICH MEANS...
...HE MUST HAVE GOTTEN HELP!
I HADN'T ALLOWED FOR THIS CONTINGENCY...
--BUT I'M NOT COMPLETELY UNPREPARED!
F-TAP!
FZUUUUM.....
MY MATERIAL TRANSPORT SYSTEM SHALL SUMMON A COUNTER-FORCE FROM ROBOTROPOLIS!
AND...
...SINCE REFLECTION IS THE ORDER OF THE DAY...
...WHAT BETTER WEAPON THAN A DARK MIRROR-IMAGE OF MY GREATEST FOE?
BEHOLD...
...MECHA-SONIC!*
*LAST SEEN IN SONIC #25- EDITOR
I LIVE TO SERVE-- I SERVE TO LIVE!
WHAT ARE YOUR ORDERS, LORD ROBOTNIK?
A NEW FACTION OF "FREEDOM FIGHTERS" HAS ARISEN...
...UNDOUBTEDLY ORGANIZED BY KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA!
GO NOW--FORTIFIED BY YOUR RECENT UPGRADES...
FA-SHOOM!

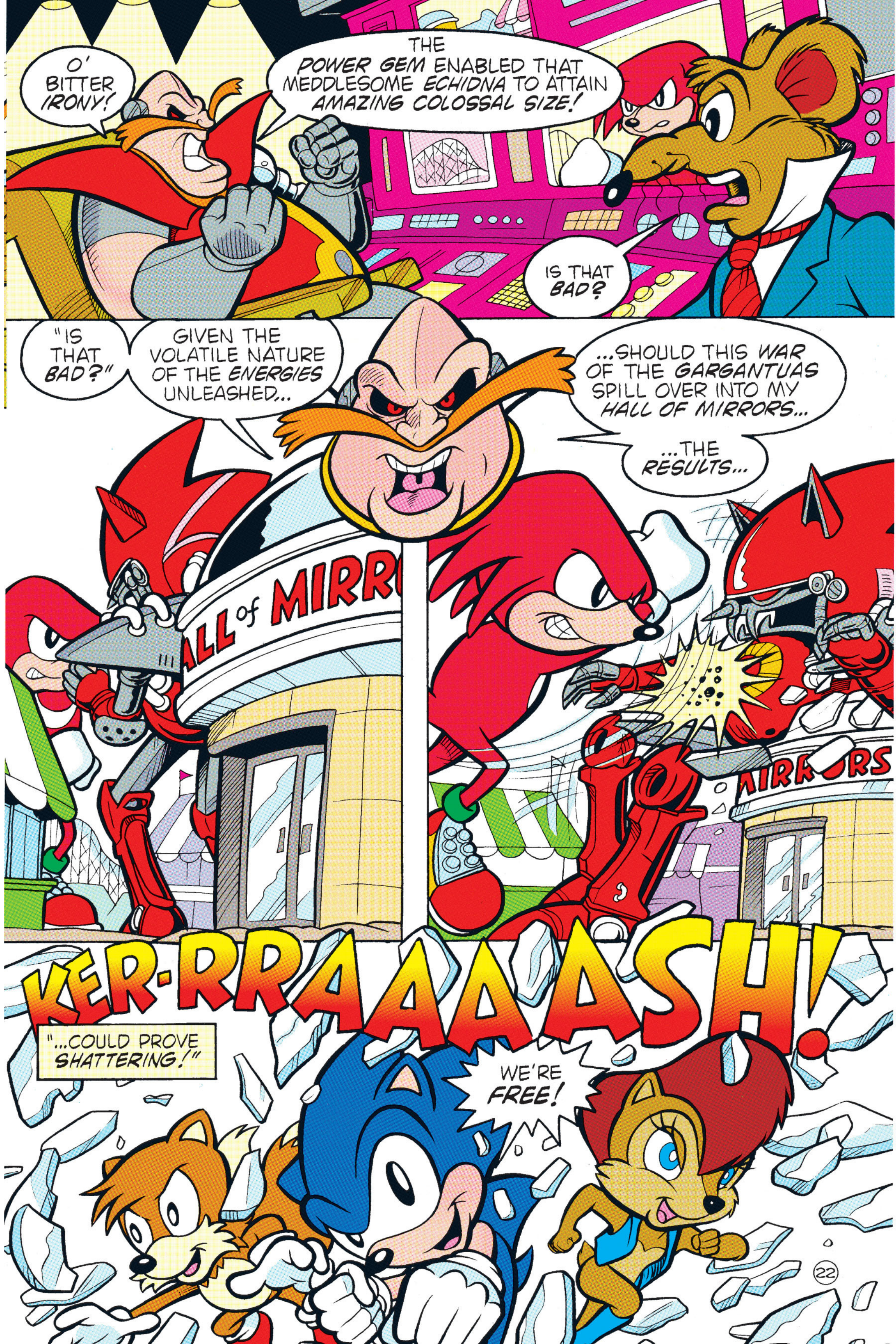

"...AND *DESTROY* THEM!"
NUTS!
THOUGHT ALL THAT JAZZ MIGHT *DISTRACT* ROBOTNIK *LONG* ENOUGH FOR US TO *REACH* THE *HALL OF MIRRORS*...
...BUT *INSTEAD* HE'S CALLED IN THE *CAVALRY!*
OUTSTANDING!
"YOU'LL BELIEVE A *HEDGEHOG* CAN *FLY!*"
ALL of MIRR
NOT FOR *LONG*, VECTOR...
...'CAUSE WE'RE GONNA TAKE THAT CLOCKWORK WIND-UP KNOCK-OFF *DOWN* AND *OUT!*
CHARGE!
ENEMY SIGHTED-- ATTACK FORTHCOMING!
TARGETING SYSTEMS ON-LINE!
HEY, *BLUE-BOY*...
--WHY DON'T YOU PICK ON SOMEONE YOUR *OWN* SIZE?
KLIK! Whrrr...
AS YOU WISH.
'COURSE, THAT *COULD* PROVE *PROBLEMATIC*...
WHOOSH!

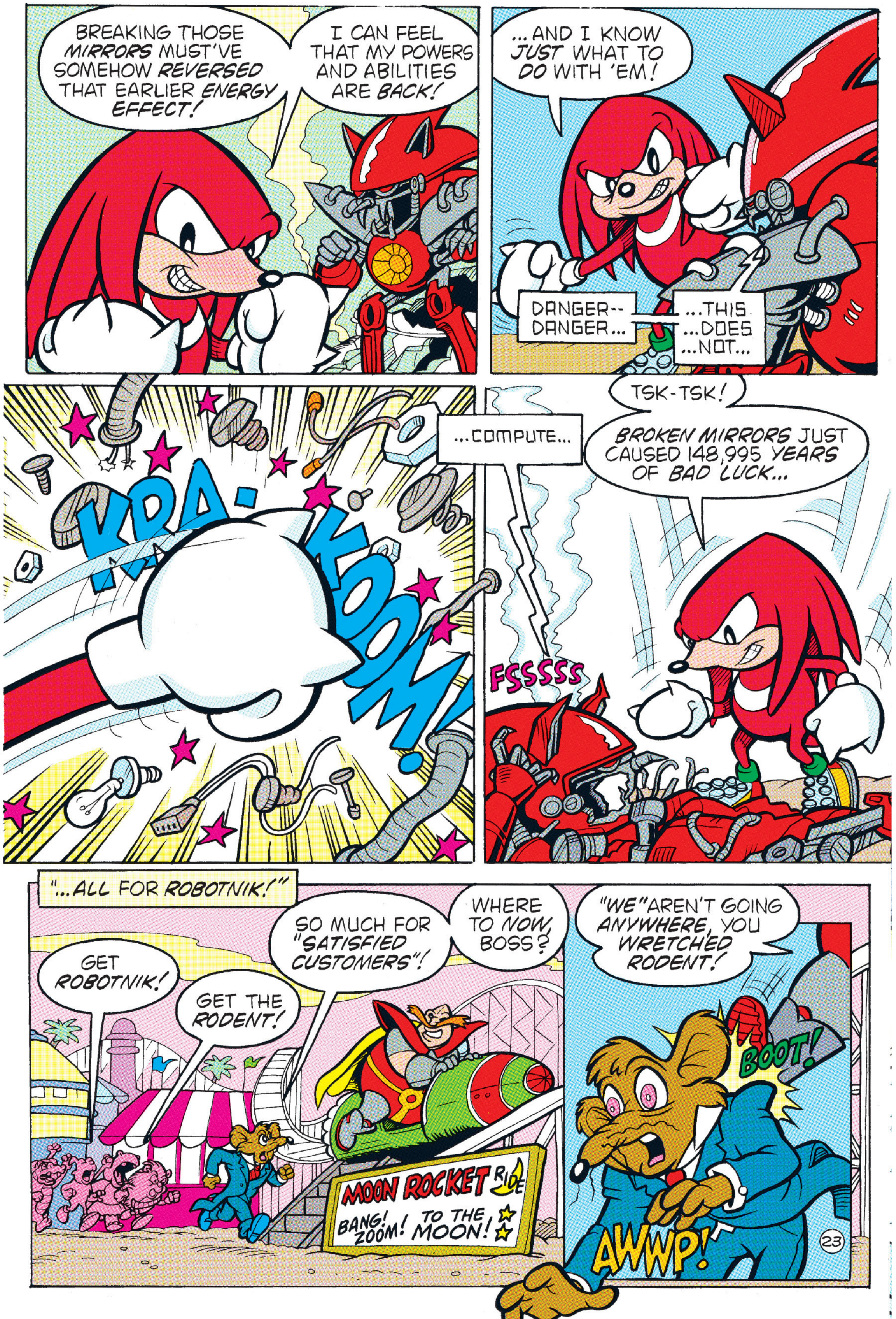

SEGA
WANTS YOU!
KE-RAASH!
...WHEN YOUR *ENEMY*...
...CAN *HIDE* IN *PLAIN SIGHT!*
POIT!
WEAPON'S LOCK HAS BEEN LOST.
SWITCHING TO INFRA-RED.
OH, YOU'LL BE SEEING *"RED"* ALL RIGHT...
...ONCE WE'RE *FINISHED* WITH --
UHNF!
HOSTILE IDENTIFIED AS KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA...
SNAG!
...RECENTLY DE-POWERED BY DOCTOR IVO ROBOTNIK.
IGNORE...
...IN FAVOR OF UNKNOWN ENTITY!
SWOOOOOOSH!
BIG -- *BIG* MISTAKE!
THINK YOU'VE ***GOT*** ME BY THE ***END*** OF MY ***TETHER?***
WELL...

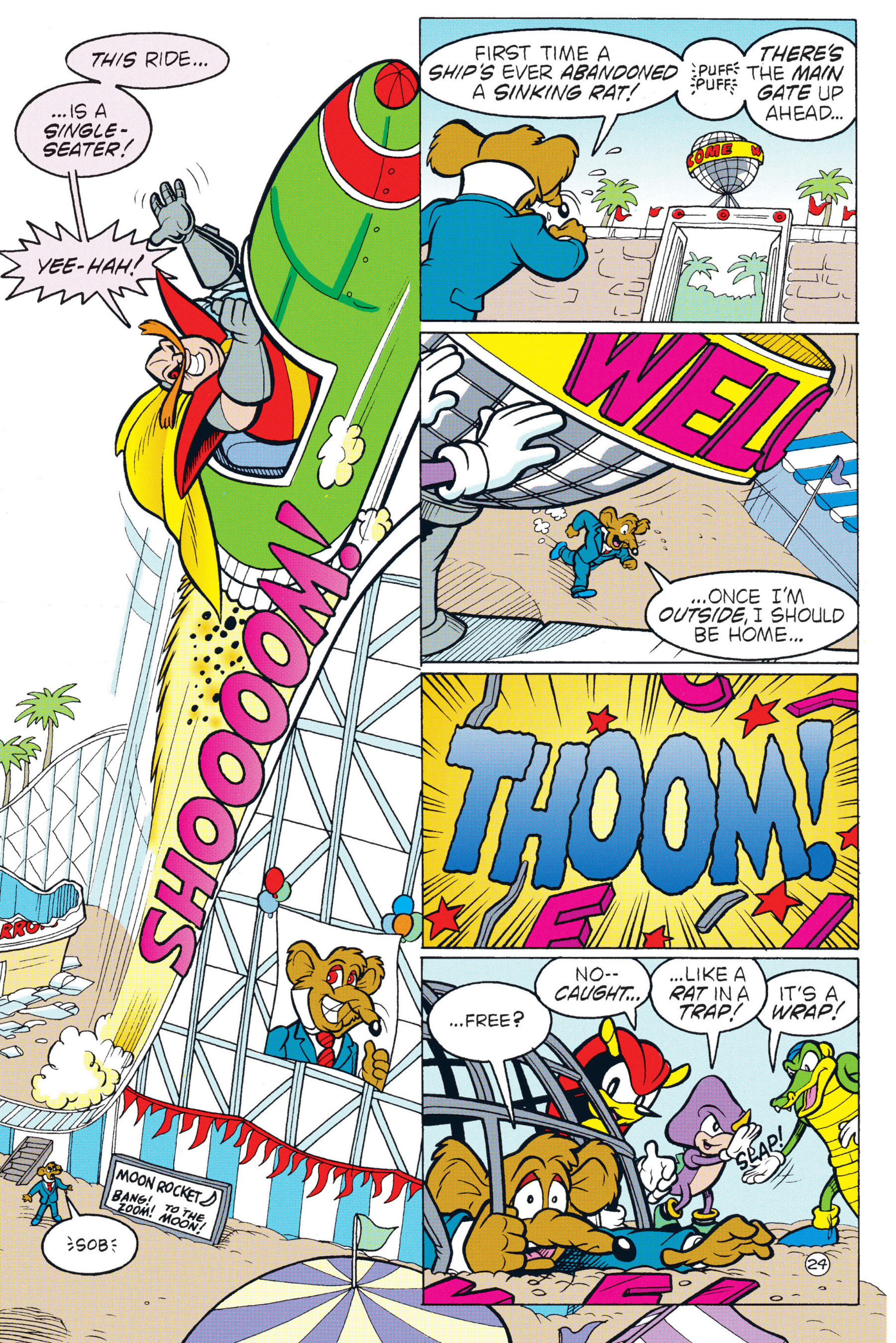

PHOOMPH!
...THINK AGAIN!
SCHWIIIING!
WARNING!
RELATIVE COORDINATES HAVE BEEN TRANSPOSED!
WHICH MEANS...
...YOU'RE THE ONE CRUISIN' FOR A BRUISIN'!
HEY, MECHA SONIC...
...HOW'D YOU LIKE A NICE TROPICAL PUNCH?
POW!
THROOM!
THROOM!
KLIK!
Whrrrr...
PING
PING
PING
KA-BOOM!

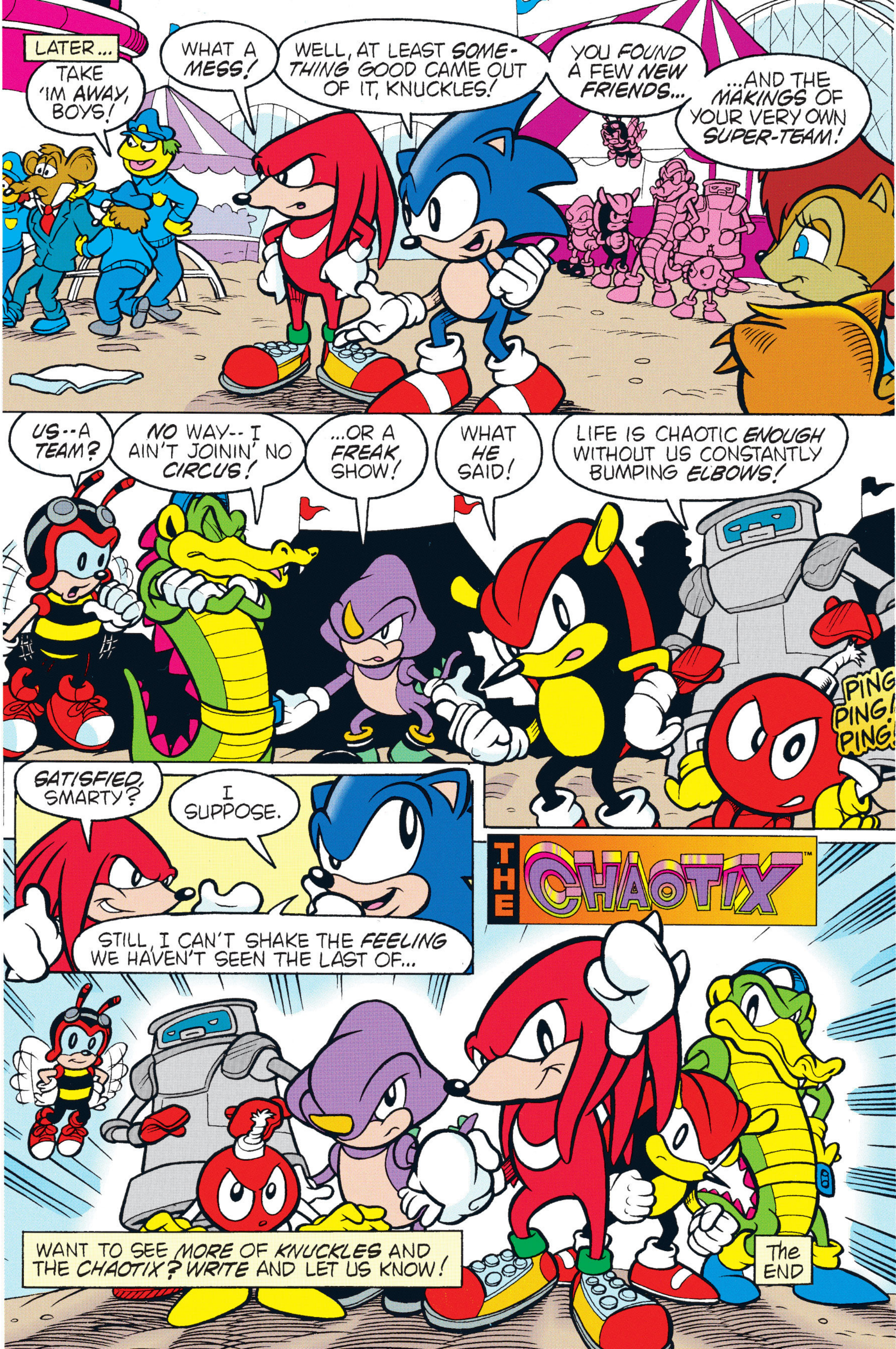

GOOD RIDDANCE TO BAD RUBBISH!
ONLY TO MECHA SONIC!
OUCH!
ISN'T THAT PAINFUL?
BOMB HAS A KNACK FOR PULLING HIMSELF TOGETHER AFTER A CRISIS!
THEN HE WON'T BE "TOGETHER" ANYTIME SOON...
rrrrrRRRUMMBLLEEE
...SINCE WE HAVE A GROWING PROBLEM ON OUR HANDS!
SOMETHING NEW HAS BEEN ADDED TO THE MECHANOID'S ENERGY MATRIX...
"GROWING" --AND GLOWING!
LOOK AT TH' SIZE OF HIM!
WE'RE IN DEEP, DEEP TROUBLE!
...A POWER GEM!
JUST WHAT I NEED!
'CAUSE THE BIGGER THEY ARE...

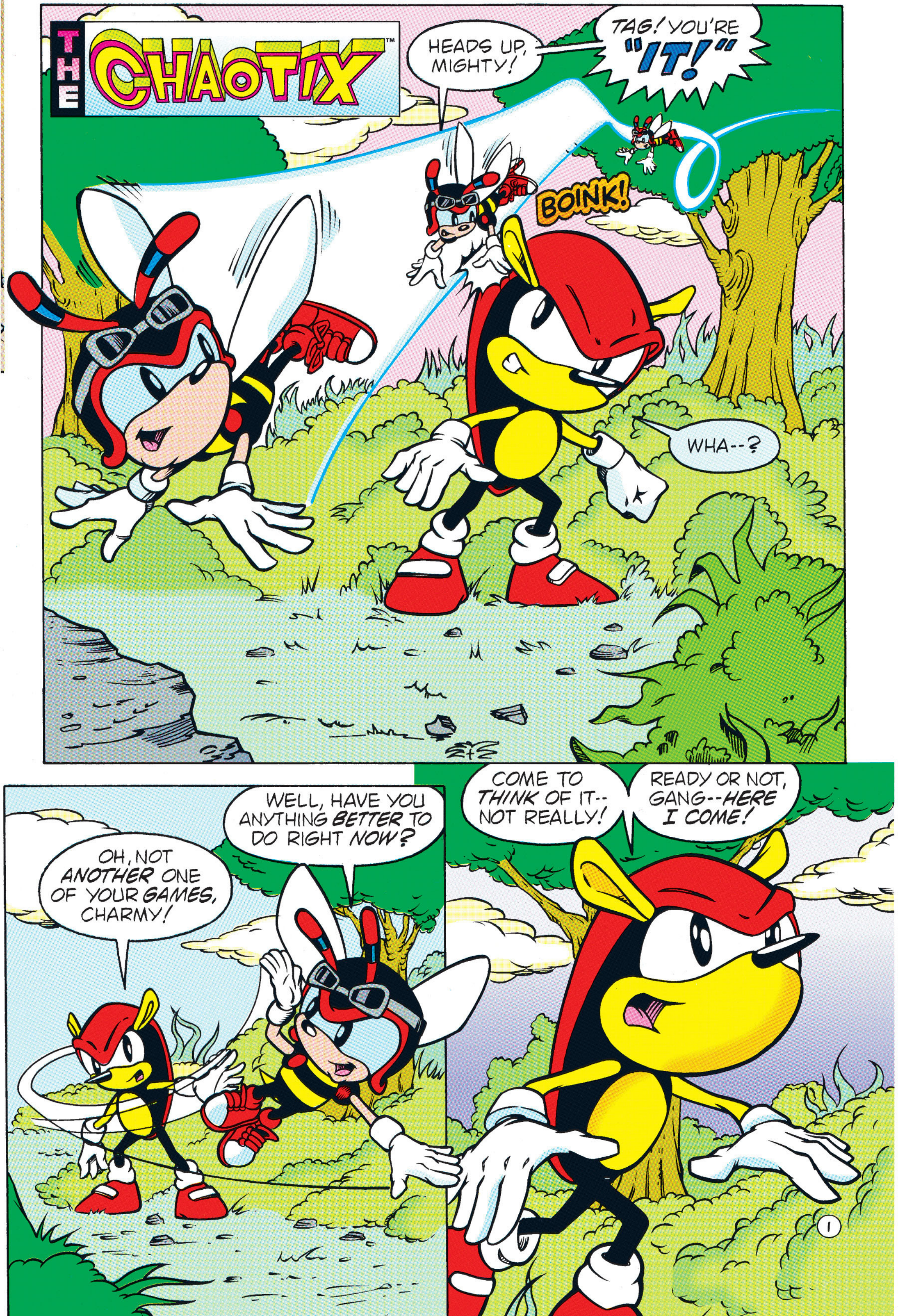

...THE HARDER I HIT!
KRA-KOOM!

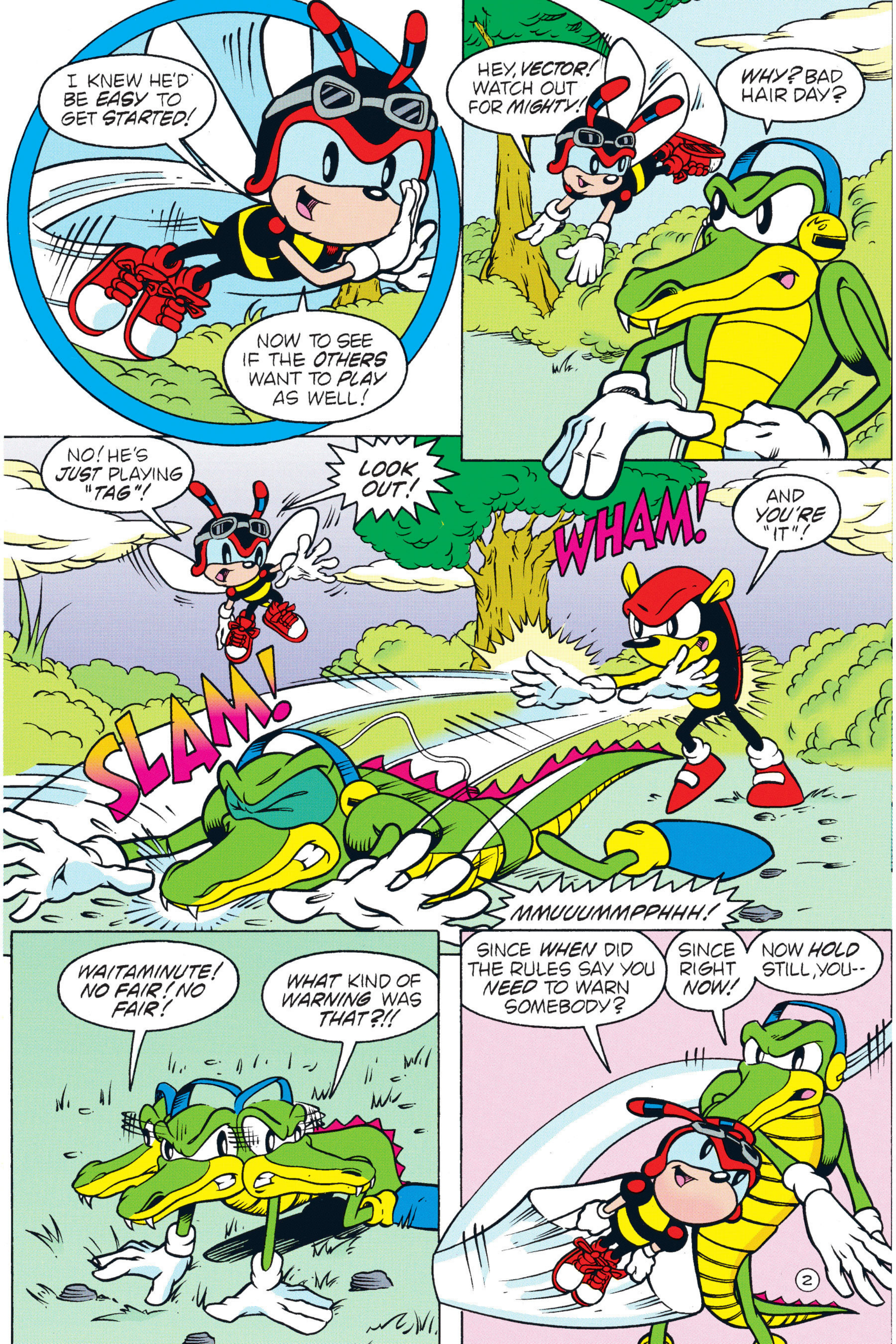

O' BITTER IRONY!
THE POWER GEM ENABLED THAT MEDDLESOME ECHIDNA TO ATTAIN AMAZING COLOSSAL SIZE!
IS THAT BAD?
"IS THAT BAD?"
GIVEN THE VOLATILE NATURE OF THE ENERGIES UNLEASHED...
...SHOULD THIS WAR OF THE GARGANTUAS SPILL OVER INTO MY HALL OF MIRRORS...
...THE RESULTS...
ALL of MIRR
MIRRORS
KER-RRAAAASH!
"...COULD PROVE SHATTERING!"
WE'RE FREE!

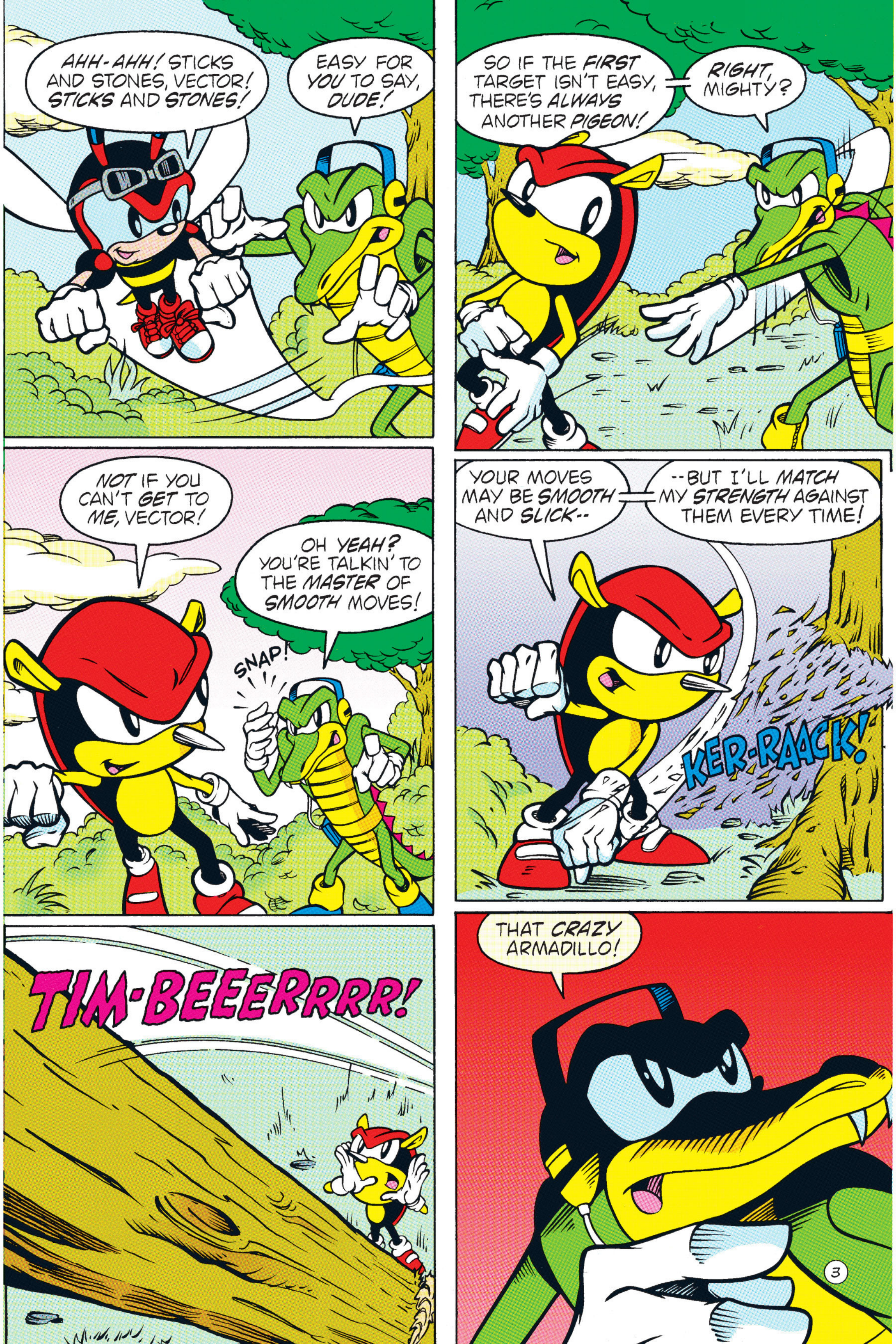

BREAKING THOSE *MIRRORS* MUST'VE SOMEHOW *REVERSED* THAT EARLIER *ENERGY EFFECT!*
I CAN FEEL THAT MY POWERS AND ABILITIES ARE *BACK!*
...AND I KNOW *JUST* WHAT TO *DO* WITH 'EM!
DANGER-- DANGER...
...THIS ...DOES ...NOT...
KRA-KOOM!
...COMPUTE...
TSK-TSK!
BROKEN MIRRORS JUST CAUSED 148,995 *YEARS* OF *BAD LUCK...*
FSSSSS
"...*ALL* FOR *ROBOTNIK!*"
GET *ROBOTNIK!*
GET THE *RODENT!*
SO MUCH FOR "*SATISFIED CUSTOMERS*"!
WHERE TO *NOW,* BOSS?
MOON ROCKET RIDE
BANG! ZOOM! TO THE MOON!
"*WE*" AREN'T GOING *ANYWHERE,* YOU *WRETCHED RODENT!*
BOOT!
AWWP!

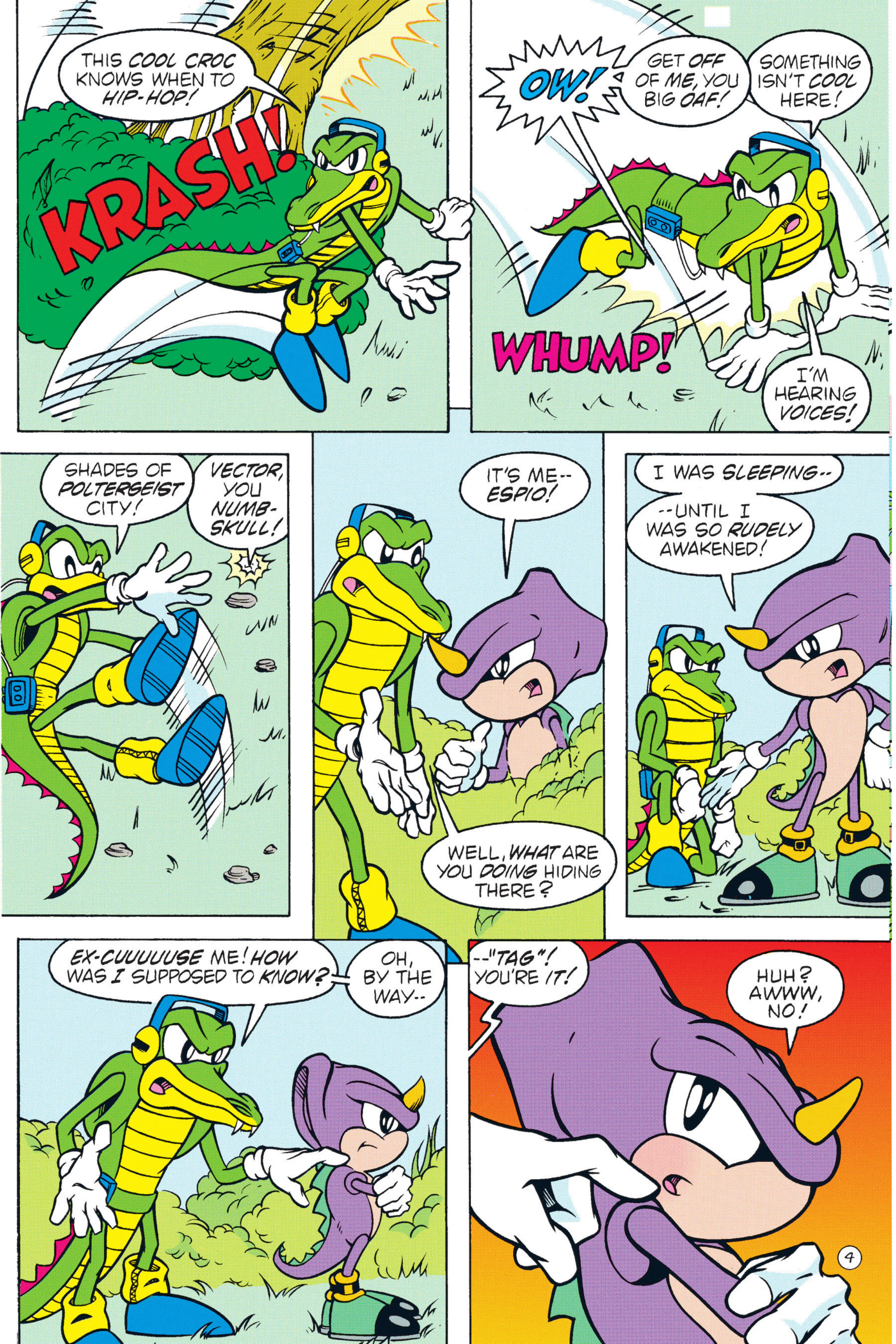

THIS RIDE...
...IS A SINGLE-SEATER!
YEE-HAH!
SHOOOM!
MOON ROCKET BANG! ZOOM! TO THE MOON!
SOB
FIRST TIME A SHIP'S EVER ABANDONED A SINKING RAT!
PUFF PUFF
THERE'S THE MAIN GATE UP AHEAD...
COME W
WEL
...ONCE I'M OUTSIDE, I SHOULD BE HOME...
THOOM!
...FREE?
NO-- CAUGHT...
...LIKE A RAT IN A TRAP!
IT'S A WRAP!
SLAP!

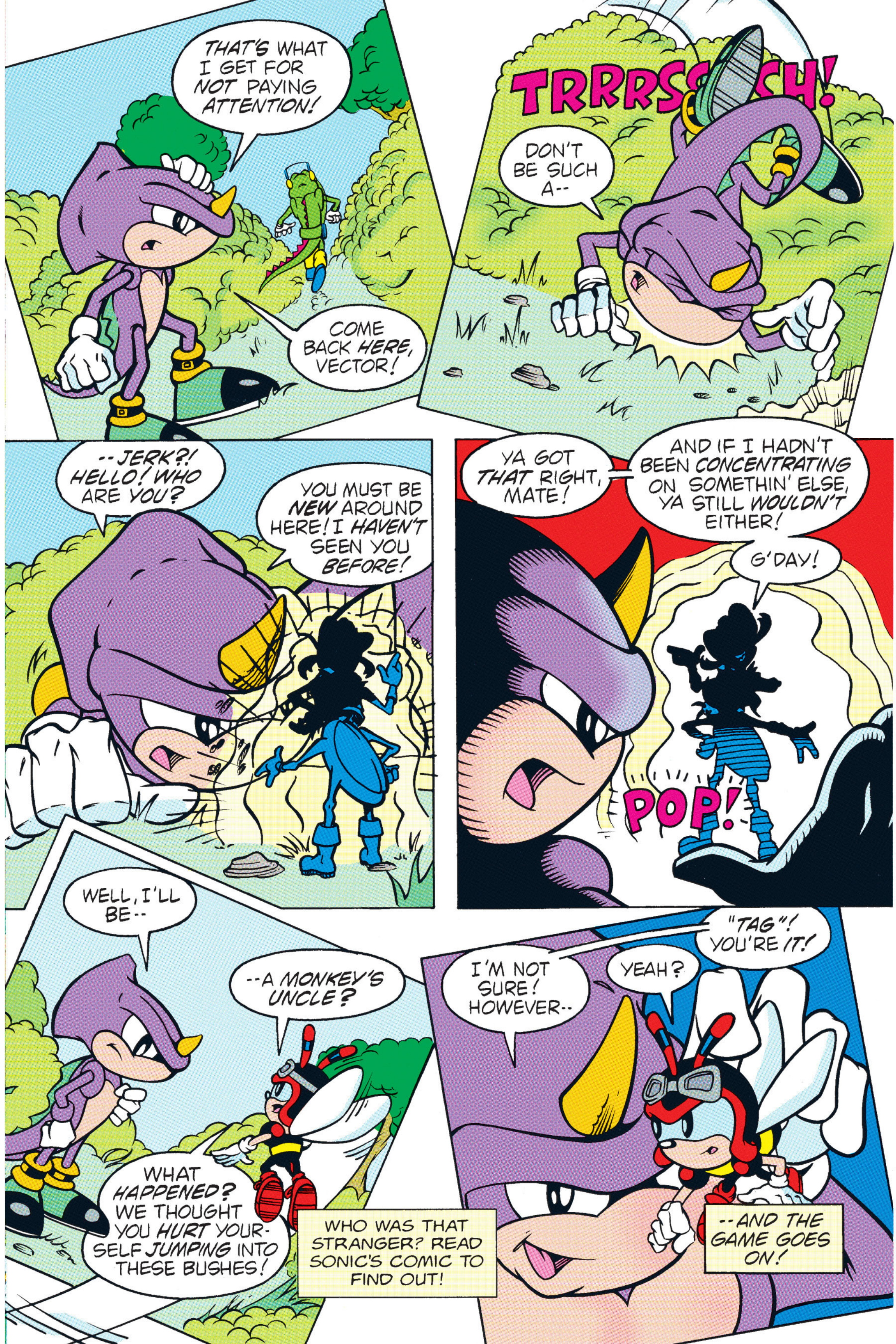

LATER...
TAKE 'IM AWAY, BOYS!
WHAT A MESS!
WELL, AT LEAST SOMETHING GOOD CAME OUT OF IT, KNUCKLES!
YOU FOUND A FEW NEW FRIENDS...
...AND THE MAKINGS OF YOUR VERY OWN SUPER-TEAM!
US--A TEAM?
NO WAY-- I AIN'T JOININ' NO CIRCUS!
...OR A FREAK SHOW!
WHAT HE SAID!
LIFE IS CHAOTIC ENOUGH WITHOUT US CONSTANTLY BUMPING ELBOWS!
PING! PING! PING!
SATISFIED, SMARTY?
I SUPPOSE.
STILL, I CAN'T SHAKE THE FEELING WE HAVEN'T SEEN THE LAST OF...
THE CHAOTIX™
WANT TO SEE MORE OF KNUCKLES AND THE CHAOTIX? WRITE AND LET US KNOW!
The END

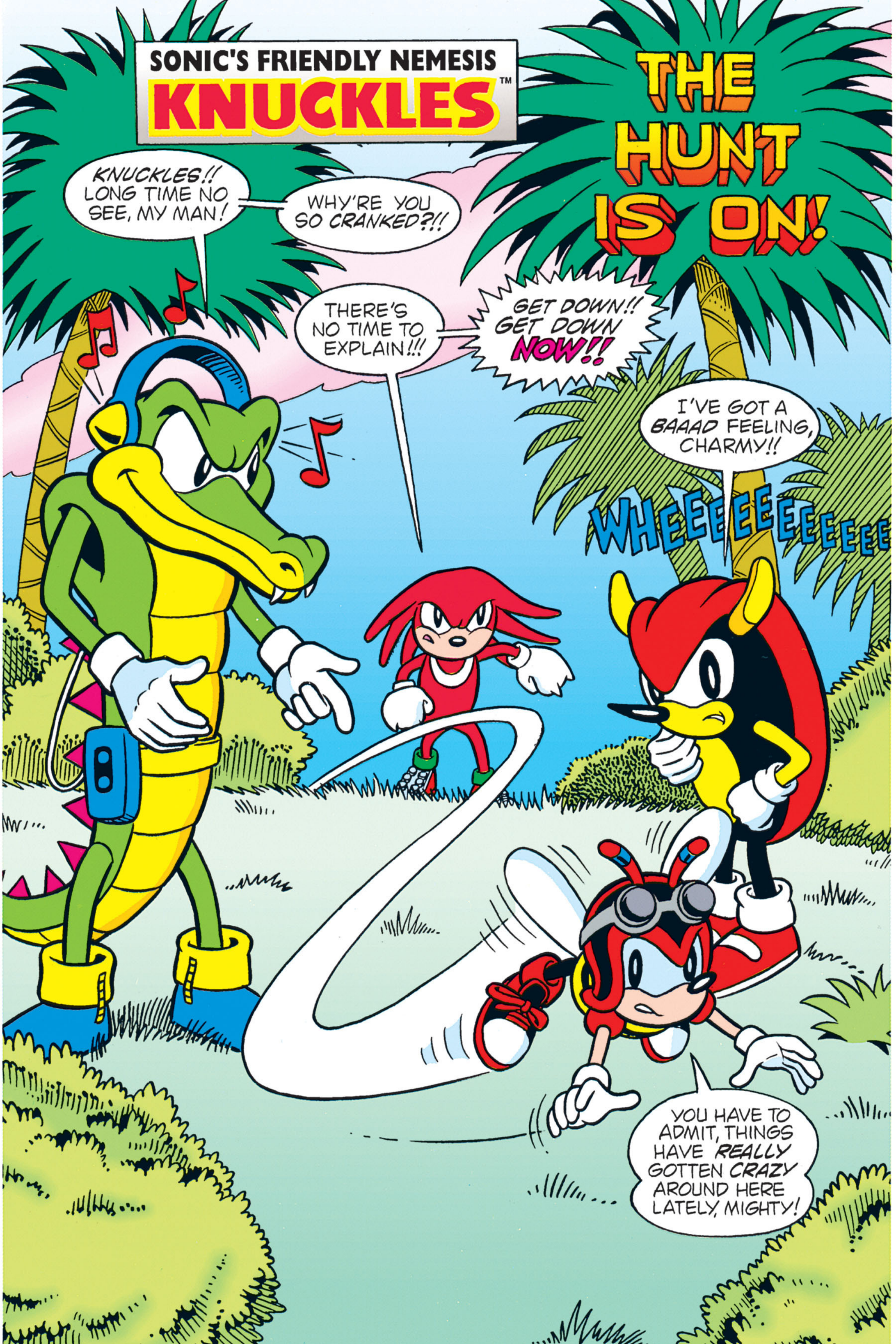

THE CHAOTIX™
HEADS UP, MIGHTY!
TAG! YOU'RE "IT!"
BOINK!
WHA--?
OH, NOT ANOTHER ONE OF YOUR GAMES, CHARMY!
WELL, HAVE YOU ANYTHING BETTER TO DO RIGHT NOW?
COME TO THINK OF IT-- NOT REALLY!
READY OR NOT, GANG--HERE I COME!

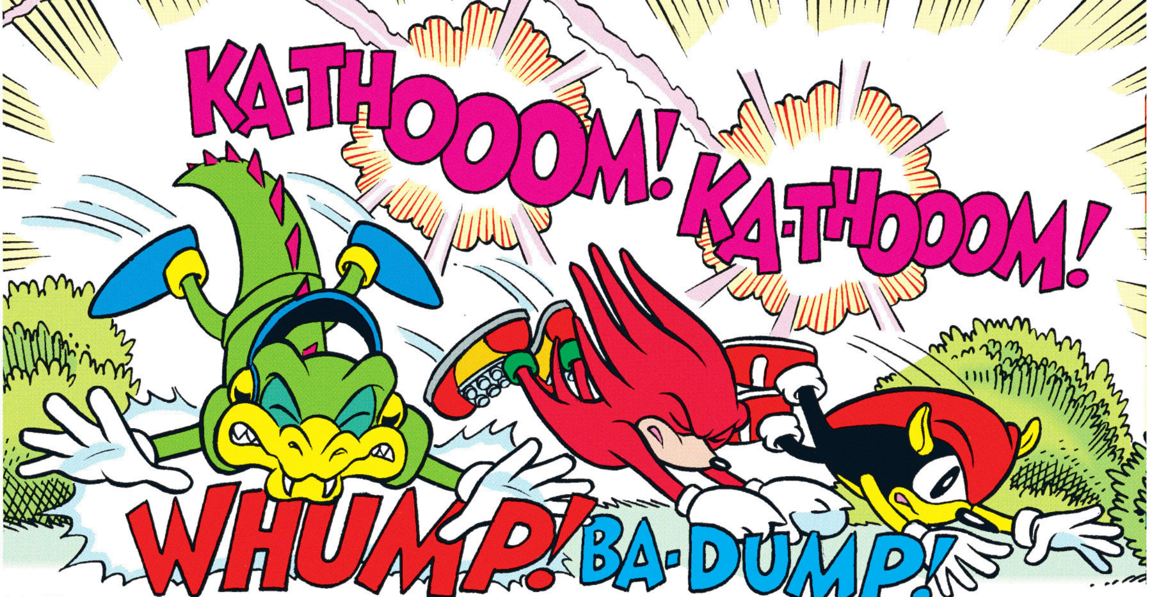

I KNEW HE'D BE *EASY* TO GET *STARTED*!
NOW TO SEE IF THE *OTHERS* WANT TO *PLAY* AS WELL!
HEY, *VECTOR*! WATCH OUT FOR *MIGHTY*!
WHY? BAD HAIR DAY?
NO! HE'S *JUST* PLAYING "*TAG*"!
LOOK OUT!
WHAM!
AND *YOU'RE* "*IT*"!
SLAM!
MMUUUMMPPHHH!
WAITAMINUTE! NO FAIR! NO FAIR!
WHAT KIND OF *WARNING* WAS *THAT?!!*
SINCE *WHEN* DID THE RULES SAY YOU *NEED* TO WARN SOMEBODY?
SINCE RIGHT *NOW!*
NOW *HOLD* STILL, YOU--

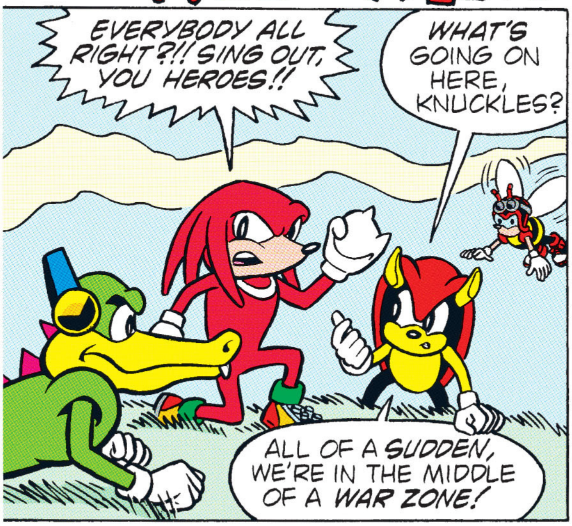

AHH-AHH! STICKS AND STONES, VECTOR! STICKS AND STONES!
EASY FOR YOU TO SAY, DUDE!
SO IF THE FIRST TARGET ISN'T EASY, THERE'S ALWAYS ANOTHER PIGEON!
RIGHT, MIGHTY?
NOT IF YOU CAN'T GET TO ME, VECTOR!
OH YEAH? YOU'RE TALKIN' TO THE MASTER OF SMOOTH MOVES!
SNAP!
YOUR MOVES MAY BE SMOOTH AND SLICK--
--BUT I'LL MATCH MY STRENGTH AGAINST THEM EVERY TIME!
KER-RAACK!
TIM-BEEERRRRR!
THAT CRAZY ARMADILLO!

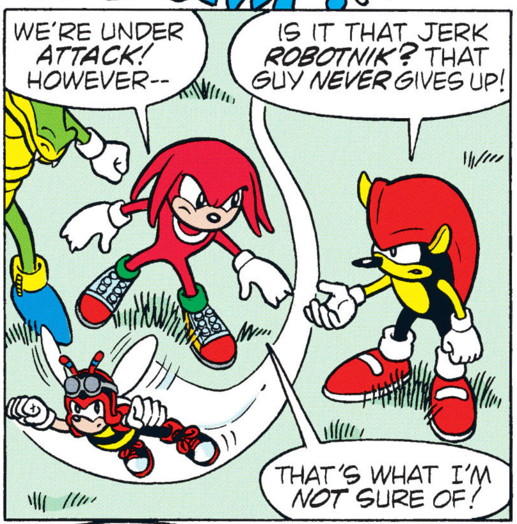

THIS *COOL CROC* KNOWS WHEN TO *HIP-HOP*!
KRASH!
OW!
GET *OFF* OF *ME*, YOU BIG *OAF*!
SOMETHING ISN'T *COOL* HERE!
WHUMP!
I'M HEARING *VOICES*!
SHADES OF *POLTERGEIST* CITY!
VECTOR, YOU *NUMBSKULL*!
IT'S ME-- *ESPIO*!
WELL, *WHAT* ARE YOU *DOING* HIDING THERE?
I WAS *SLEEPING*--
--UNTIL I WAS SO *RUDELY* AWAKENED!
EX-CUUUUUSE ME! *HOW* WAS *I* SUPPOSED TO *KNOW*?
OH, BY THE WAY--
--*"TAG"*! YOU'RE *IT*!
HUH? AWWW, NO!

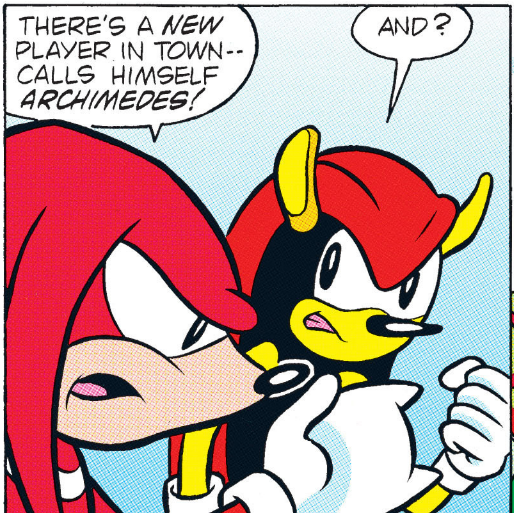

THAT'S WHAT I GET FOR NOT PAYING ATTENTION!
COME BACK HERE, VECTOR!
TRRRSSCH!
DON'T BE SUCH A--
--JERK?! HELLO! WHO ARE YOU?
YOU MUST BE NEW AROUND HERE! I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU BEFORE!
YA GOT THAT RIGHT, MATE!
AND IF I HADN'T BEEN CONCENTRATING ON SOMETHIN' ELSE, YA STILL WOULDN'T EITHER!
G'DAY!
POP!
WELL, I'LL BE--
--A MONKEY'S UNCLE?
WHAT HAPPENED? WE THOUGHT YOU HURT YOURSELF JUMPING INTO THESE BUSHES!
WHO WAS THAT STRANGER? READ SONIC'S COMIC TO FIND OUT!
I'M NOT SURE! HOWEVER--
YEAH?
"TAG"! YOU'RE IT!
--AND THE GAME GOES ON!

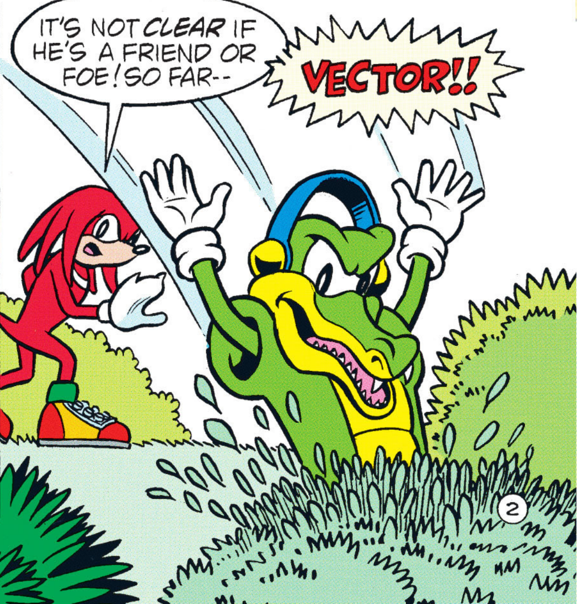

SONIC'S FRIENDLY NEMESIS
KNUCKLES™
THE HUNT IS ON!
KNUCKLES!! LONG TIME NO SEE, MY MAN!
WHY'RE YOU SO *CRANKED*?!!
THERE'S NO TIME TO EXPLAIN!!!
GET DOWN!! GET DOWN *NOW!!*
I'VE GOT A *BAAAD* FEELING, CHARMY!!
WHEEEEEEEEEE
YOU HAVE TO ADMIT, THINGS HAVE *REALLY* GOTTEN *CRAZY* AROUND HERE LATELY, MIGHTY!

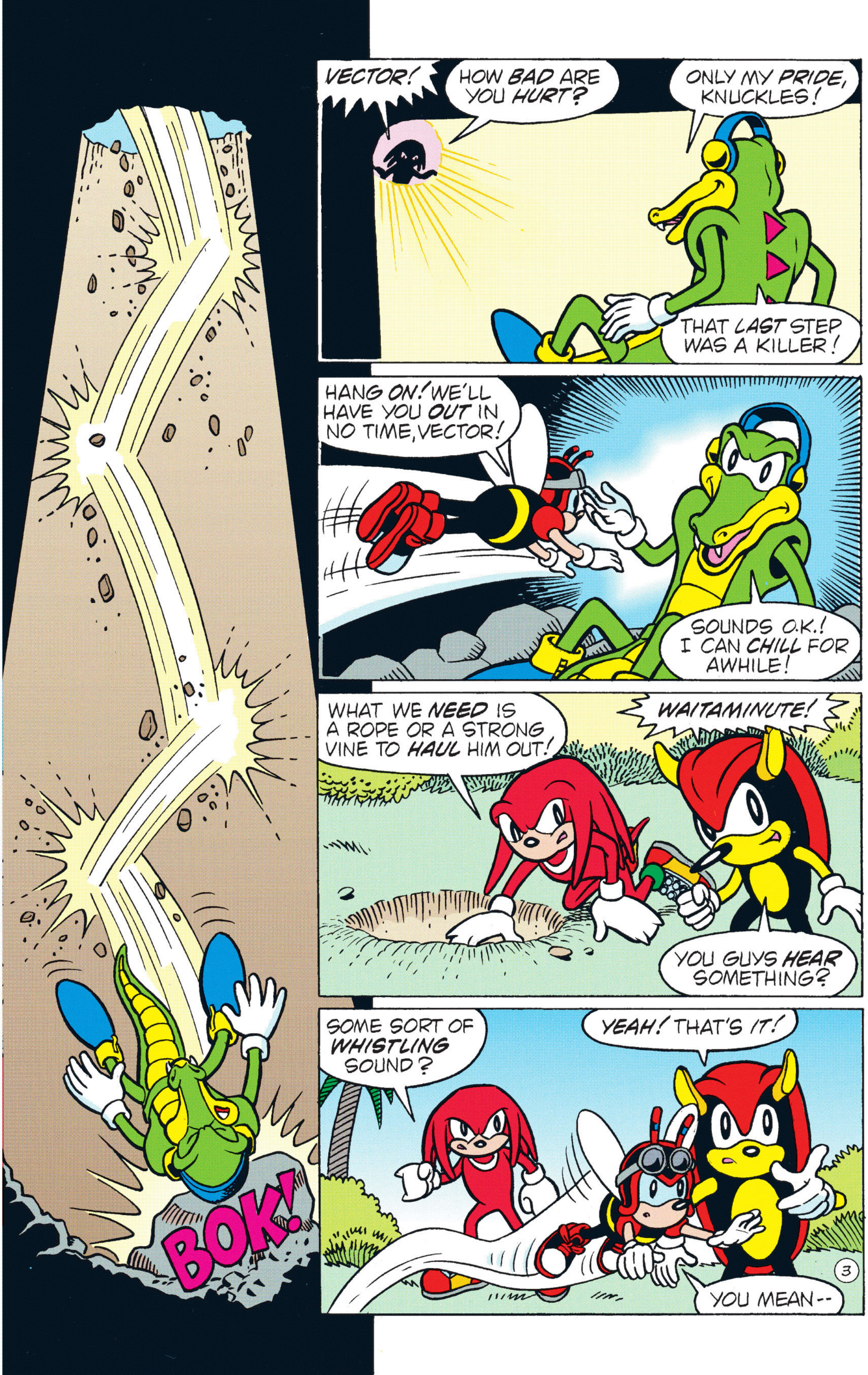

KA-THOOOOM! KA-THOOOM!
WHUMP! BA-DUMP!

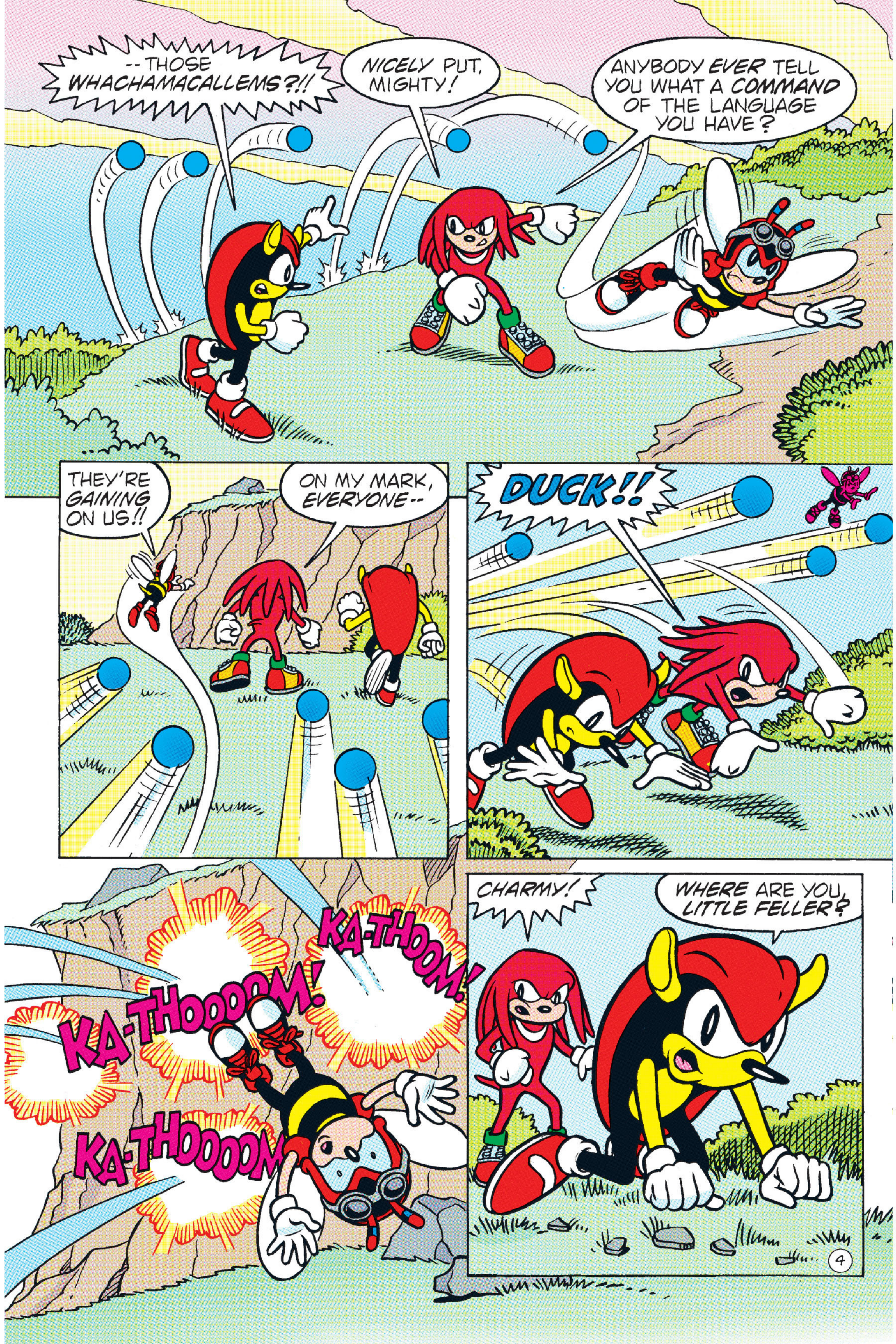

EVERYBODY ALL RIGHT?!! SING OUT, YOU HEROES!!
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE, KNUCKLES?
ALL OF A SUDDEN, WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF A WAR ZONE!

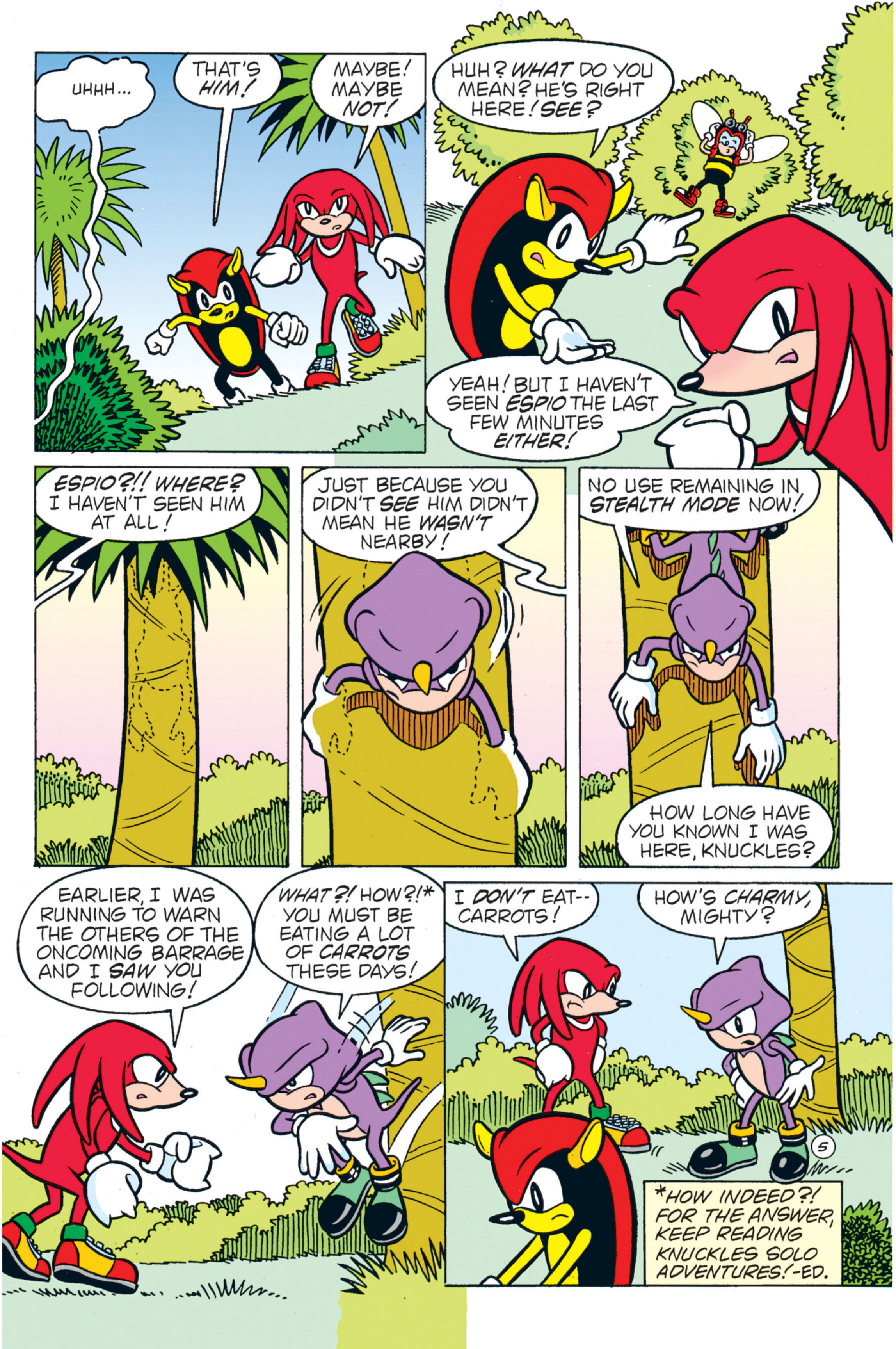

WE'RE UNDER ATTACK! HOWEVER--
IS IT THAT JERK ROBOTNIK? THAT GUY NEVER GIVES UP!
THAT'S WHAT I'M NOT SURE OF!

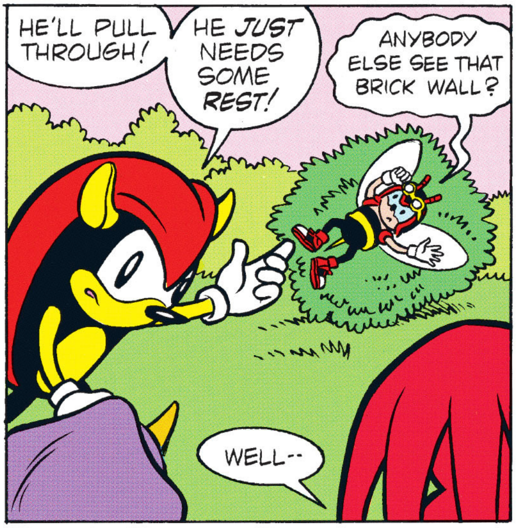

THERE'S A NEW PLAYER IN TOWN-- CALLS HIMSELF ARCHIMEDES!
AND?

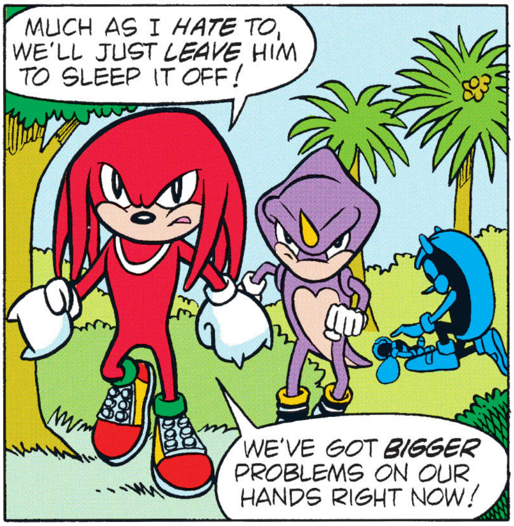

IT'S NOT CLEAR IF HE'S A FRIEND OR FOE! SO FAR--
VECTOR!!

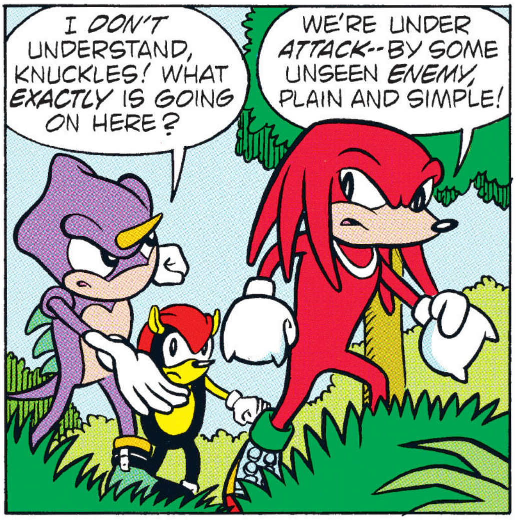

BOK!
VECTOR!
HOW BAD ARE YOU HURT?
ONLY MY PRIDE, KNUCKLES!
THAT LAST STEP WAS A KILLER!
HANG ON! WE'LL HAVE YOU OUT IN NO TIME, VECTOR!
SOUNDS O.K.! I CAN CHILL FOR AWHILE!
WHAT WE NEED IS A ROPE OR A STRONG VINE TO HAUL HIM OUT!
WAITAMINUTE!
YOU GUYS HEAR SOMETHING?
SOME SORT OF WHISTLING SOUND?
YEAH! THAT'S IT!
YOU MEAN --
3

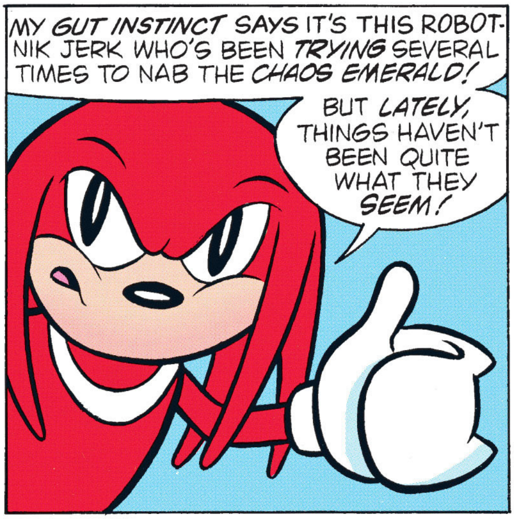

--THOSE WHACHAMACALLEMS?!!
NICELY PUT, MIGHTY!
ANYBODY EVER TELL YOU WHAT A COMMAND OF THE LANGUAGE YOU HAVE?
THEY'RE GAINING ON US!!
ON MY MARK, EVERYONE--
DUCK!!
KA-THOOOOM!
KA-THOOM!
KA-THOOOOM
CHARMY!
WHERE ARE YOU, LITTLE FELLER?

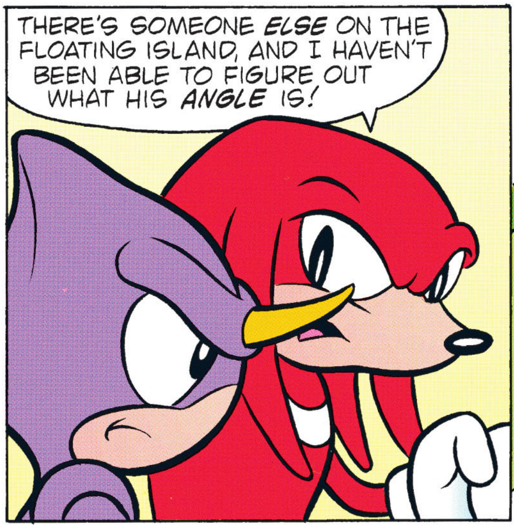

UHHH...
THAT'S *HIM!*
MAYBE! MAYBE *NOT!*
HUH? *WHAT* DO YOU MEAN? HE'S RIGHT HERE! *SEE?*
YEAH! BUT I HAVEN'T SEEN *ESPIO* THE LAST FEW MINUTES *EITHER!*
ESPIO?!! WHERE? I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM AT ALL!
JUST BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T *SEE* HIM DIDN'T MEAN HE *WASN'T* NEARBY!
NO USE REMAINING IN *STEALTH MODE* NOW!
HOW LONG HAVE YOU KNOWN I WAS HERE, KNUCKLES?
EARLIER, I WAS RUNNING TO WARN THE OTHERS OF THE ONCOMING BARRAGE AND I *SAW* YOU FOLLOWING!
WHAT?! HOW?!* YOU MUST BE EATING A LOT OF *CARROTS* THESE DAYS!
I *DON'T* EAT-- CARROTS!
HOW'S *CHARMY,* MIGHTY?
5
*HOW INDEED?! FOR THE ANSWER, KEEP READING KNUCKLES SOLO ADVENTURES! -ED.

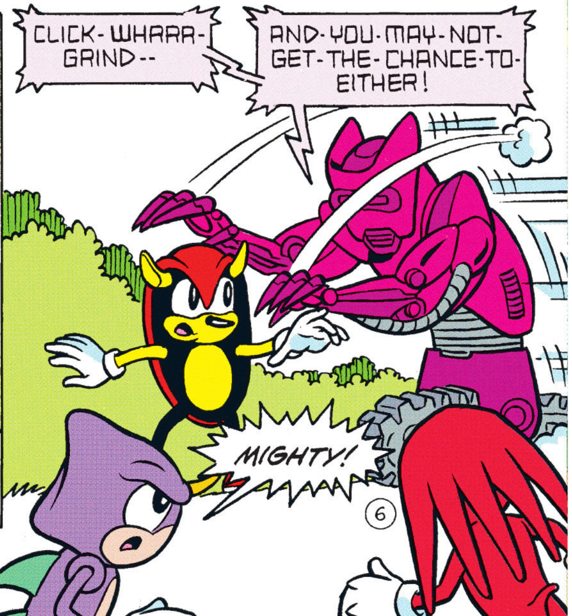

HE'LL PULL THROUGH!
HE *JUST* NEEDS SOME ***REST!***
ANYBODY ELSE SEE THAT BRICK WALL?
WELL--

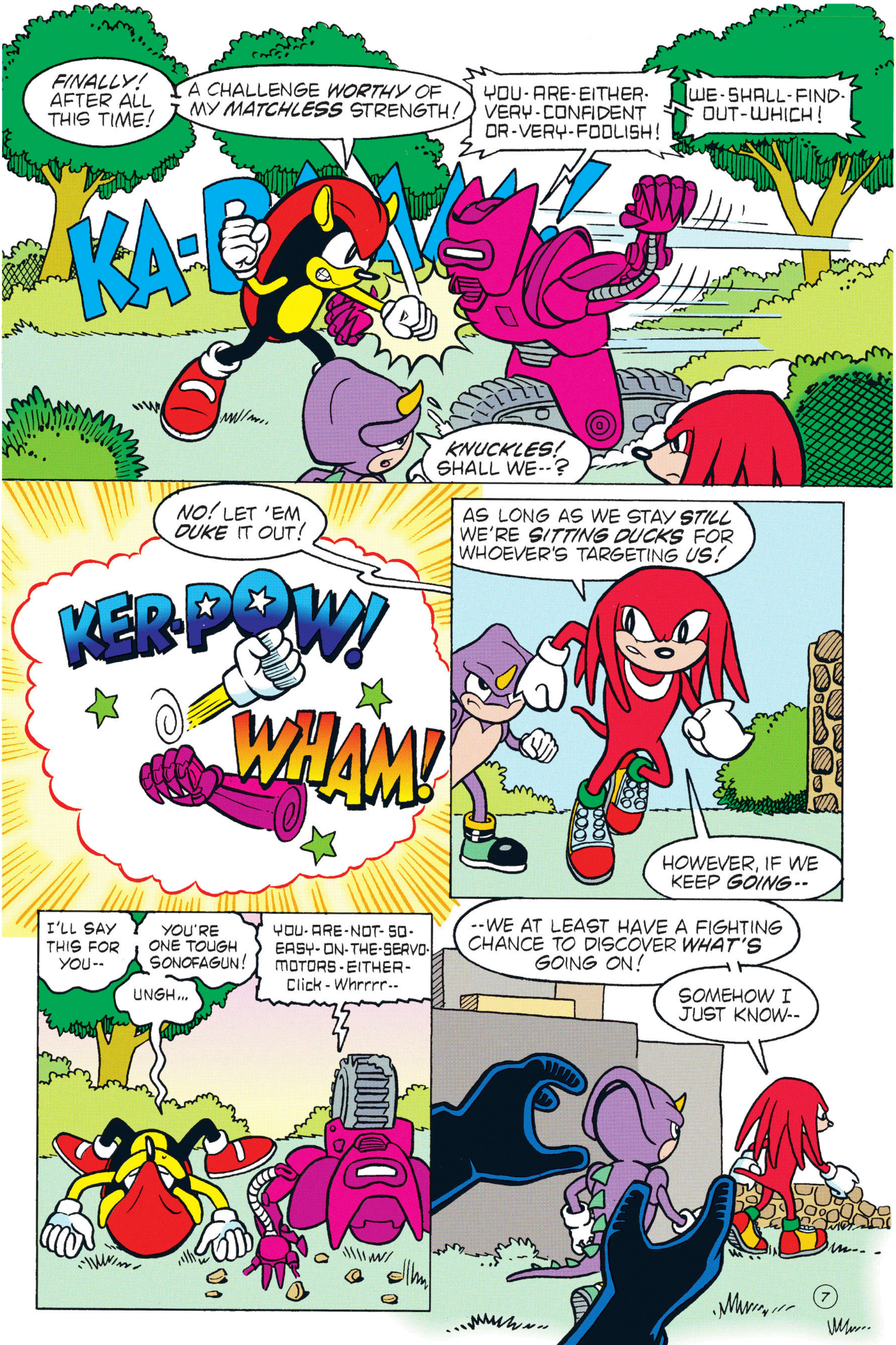

MUCH AS I *HATE* TO, WE'LL JUST *LEAVE* HIM TO SLEEP IT OFF!
WE'VE GOT ***BIGGER*** PROBLEMS ON OUR HANDS RIGHT NOW!

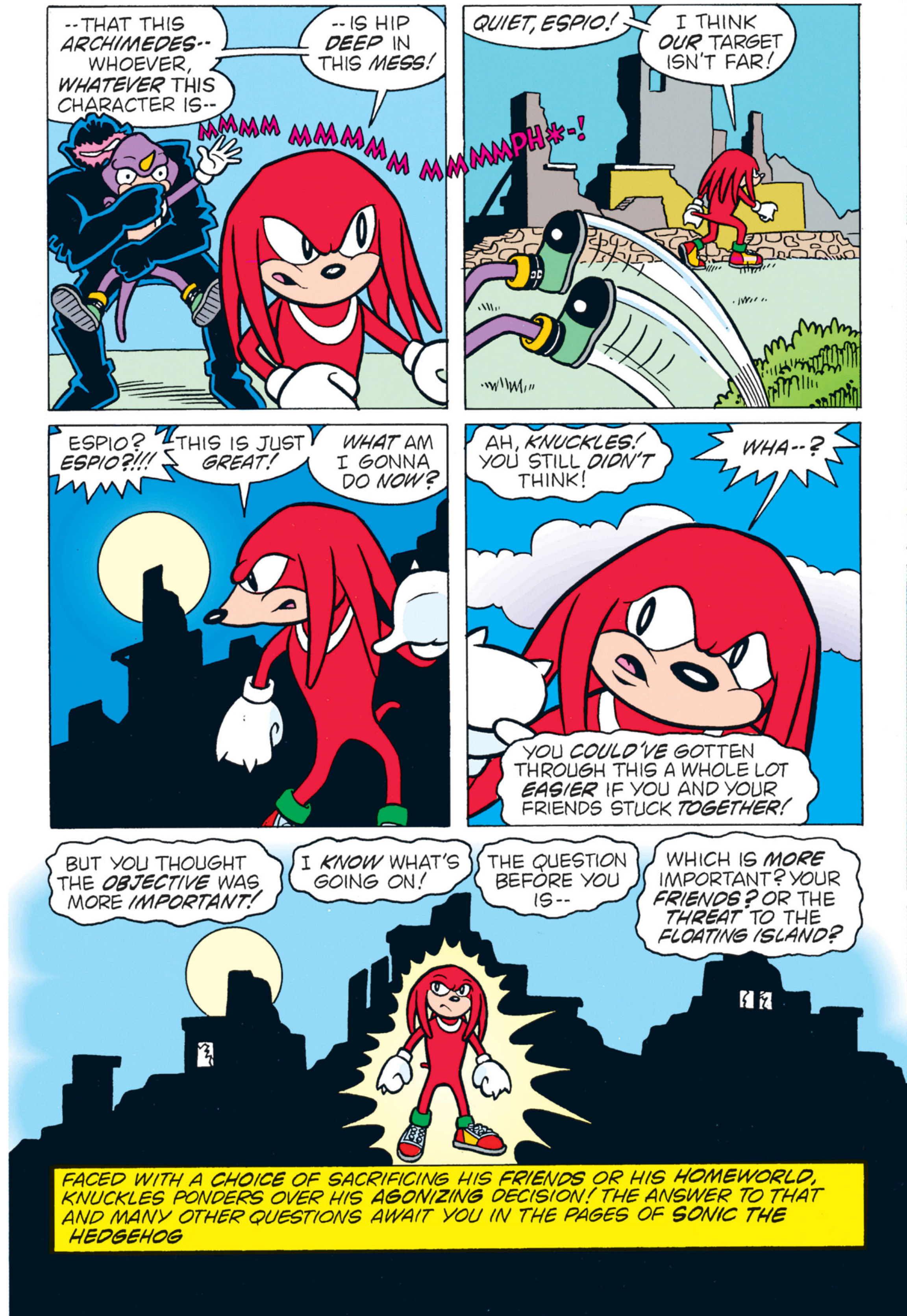

I *DON'T* UNDERSTAND, KNUCKLES! WHAT *EXACTLY* IS GOING ON HERE?
WE'RE UNDER *ATTACK*--BY SOME UNSEEN *ENEMY*, PLAIN AND SIMPLE!

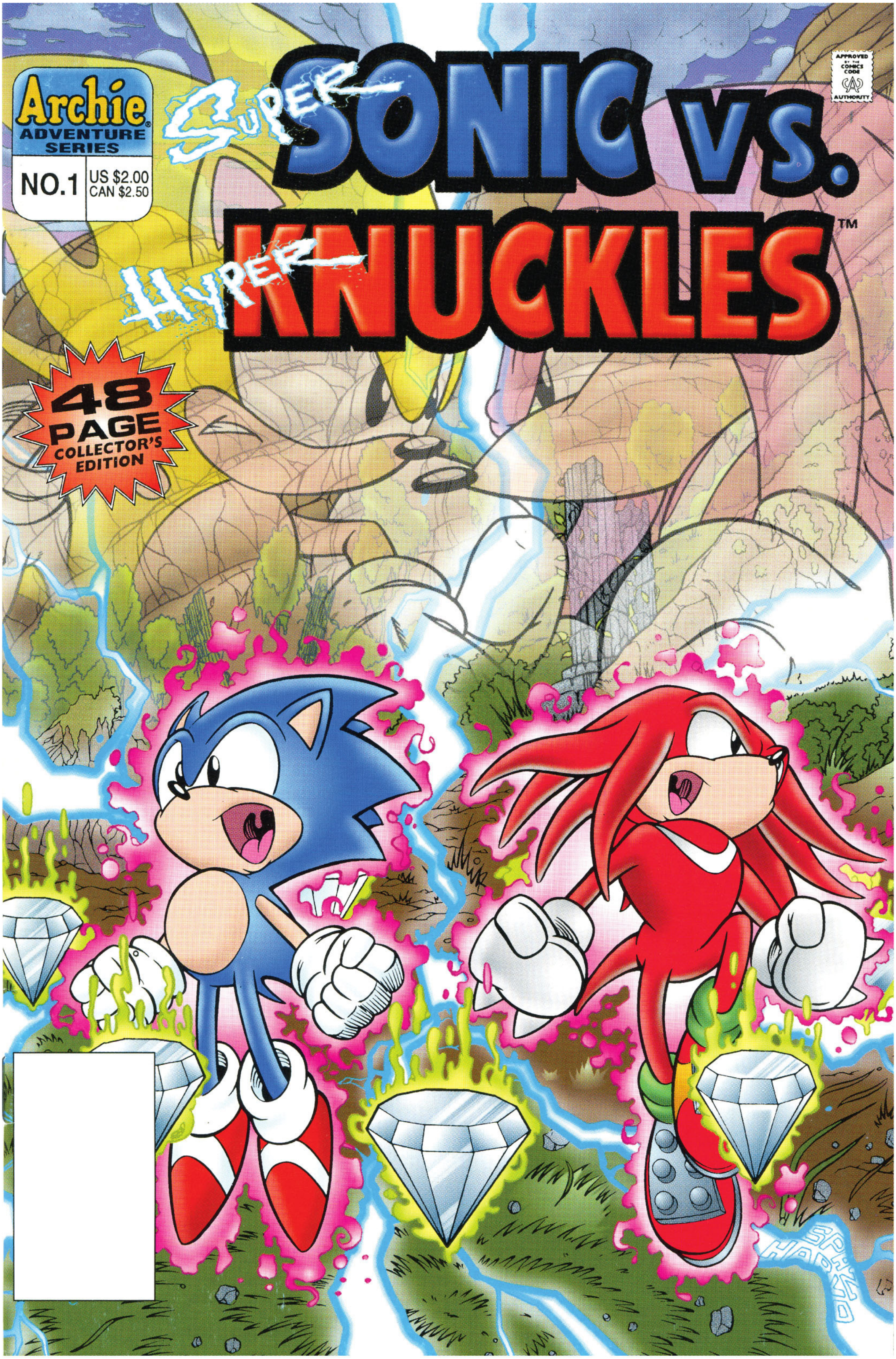

MY ***GUT INSTINCT*** SAYS IT'S THIS ROBOTNIK JERK WHO'S BEEN *TRYING* SEVERAL TIMES TO NAB THE ***CHAOS EMERALD!***
BUT *LATELY*, THINGS HAVEN'T BEEN QUITE WHAT THEY *SEEM!*


THERE'S SOMEONE *ELSE* ON THE FLOATING ISLAND, AND I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO FIGURE OUT WHAT HIS *ANGLE* IS!


CLICK-WHRRR-GRIND--
AND-YOU-MAY-NOT-GET-THE-CHANCE-TO-EITHER!
MIGHTY!


FINALLY! AFTER ALL THIS TIME!
A CHALLENGE *WORTHY* OF MY *MATCHLESS* STRENGTH!
YOU-ARE-EITHER-VERY-CONFIDENT OR-VERY-FOOLISH!
WE-SHALL-FIND-OUT-WHICH!
KA-BAM!
KNUCKLES! SHALL WE--?
NO! LET 'EM *DUKE* IT OUT!
KER-POW!
WHAM!
AS LONG AS WE STAY *STILL* WE'RE *SITTING DUCKS* FOR WHOEVER'S TARGETING *US!*
HOWEVER, IF WE KEEP *GOING--*
I'LL SAY THIS FOR YOU--
YOU'RE ONE TOUGH SONOFAGUN!
UNGH...
YOU-ARE-NOT-SO-EASY-ON-THE-SERVO-MOTORS-EITHER-
Click-Whrrrr--
--WE AT LEAST HAVE A FIGHTING CHANCE TO DISCOVER *WHAT'S* GOING ON!
SOMEHOW I JUST KNOW--


--THAT THIS *ARCHIMEDES*-- WHOEVER, *WHATEVER* THIS CHARACTER IS--
--IS HIP *DEEP* IN THIS *MESS!*
MMMM MMMMM MMMMPH*-!
QUIET, ESPIO!
I THINK *OUR* TARGET ISN'T FAR!
ESPIO? *ESPIO?!!!*
THIS IS JUST *GREAT!*
WHAT AM I GONNA DO *NOW?*
AH, *KNUCKLES!* YOU STILL *DIDN'T* THINK!
WHA--?
YOU *COULD'VE* GOTTEN THROUGH THIS A WHOLE LOT *EASIER* IF YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS STUCK *TOGETHER!*
BUT YOU THOUGHT THE *OBJECTIVE* WAS MORE *IMPORTANT!*
I *KNOW* WHAT'S GOING ON!
THE QUESTION BEFORE YOU IS--
WHICH IS *MORE* IMPORTANT? YOUR *FRIENDS?* OR THE *THREAT* TO THE *FLOATING ISLAND?*
FACED WITH A **CHOICE** *OF SACRIFICING HIS* **FRIENDS** *OR HIS* **HOMEWORLD,** *KNUCKLES PONDERS OVER HIS* **AGONIZING** *DECISION! THE ANSWER TO THAT AND MANY OTHER QUESTIONS AWAIT YOU IN THE PAGES OF* **SONIC THE HEDGEHOG**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SUPER
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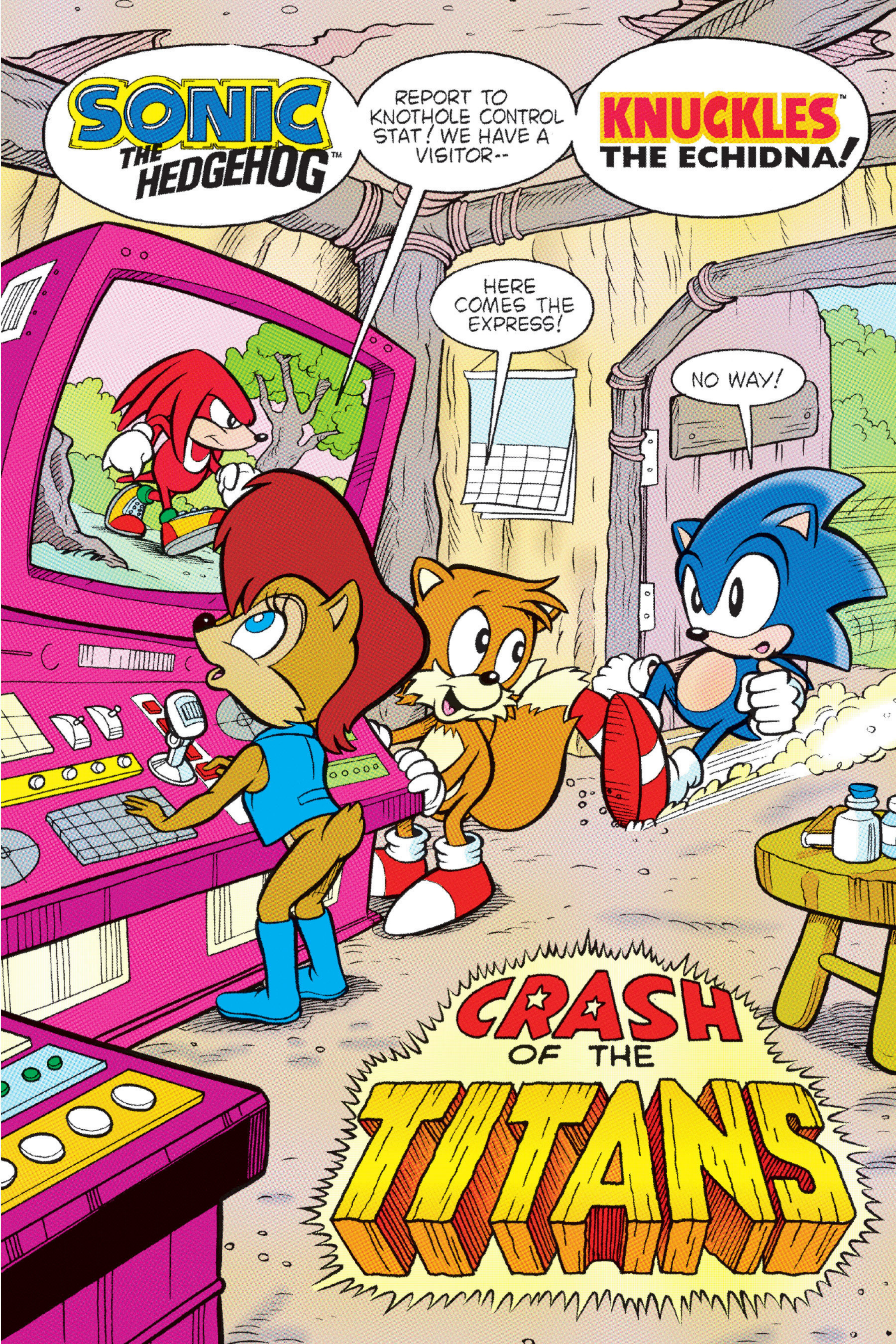
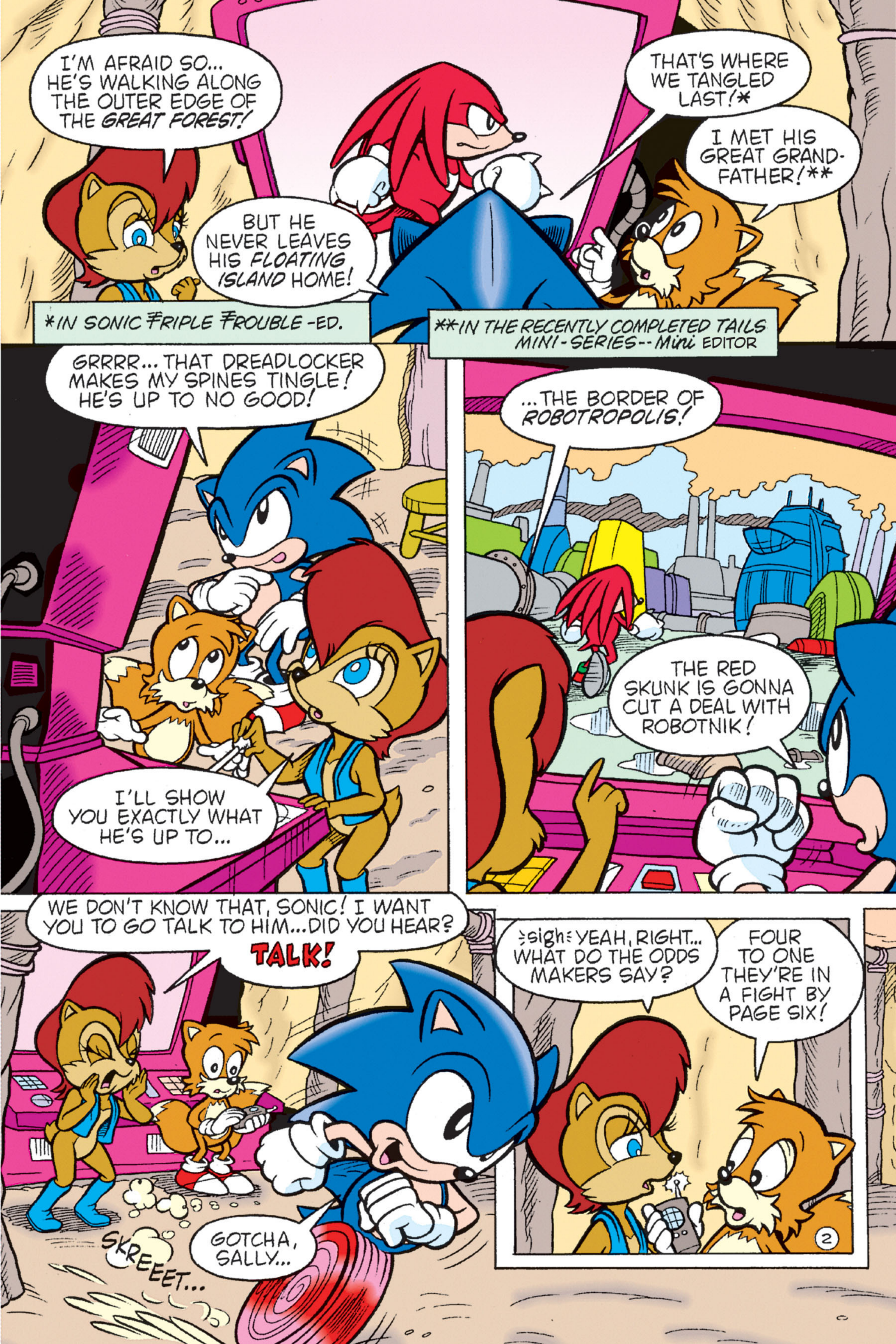
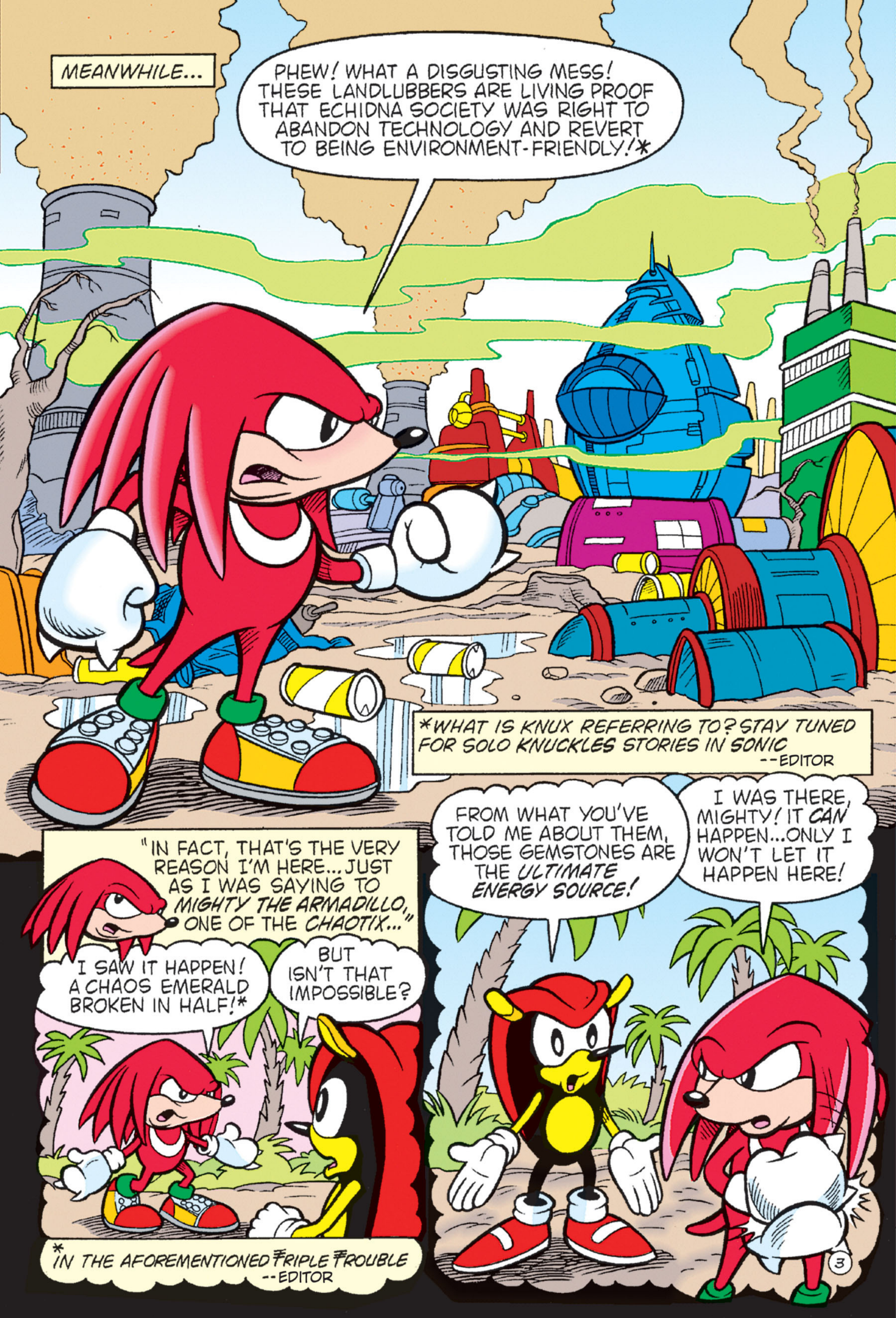
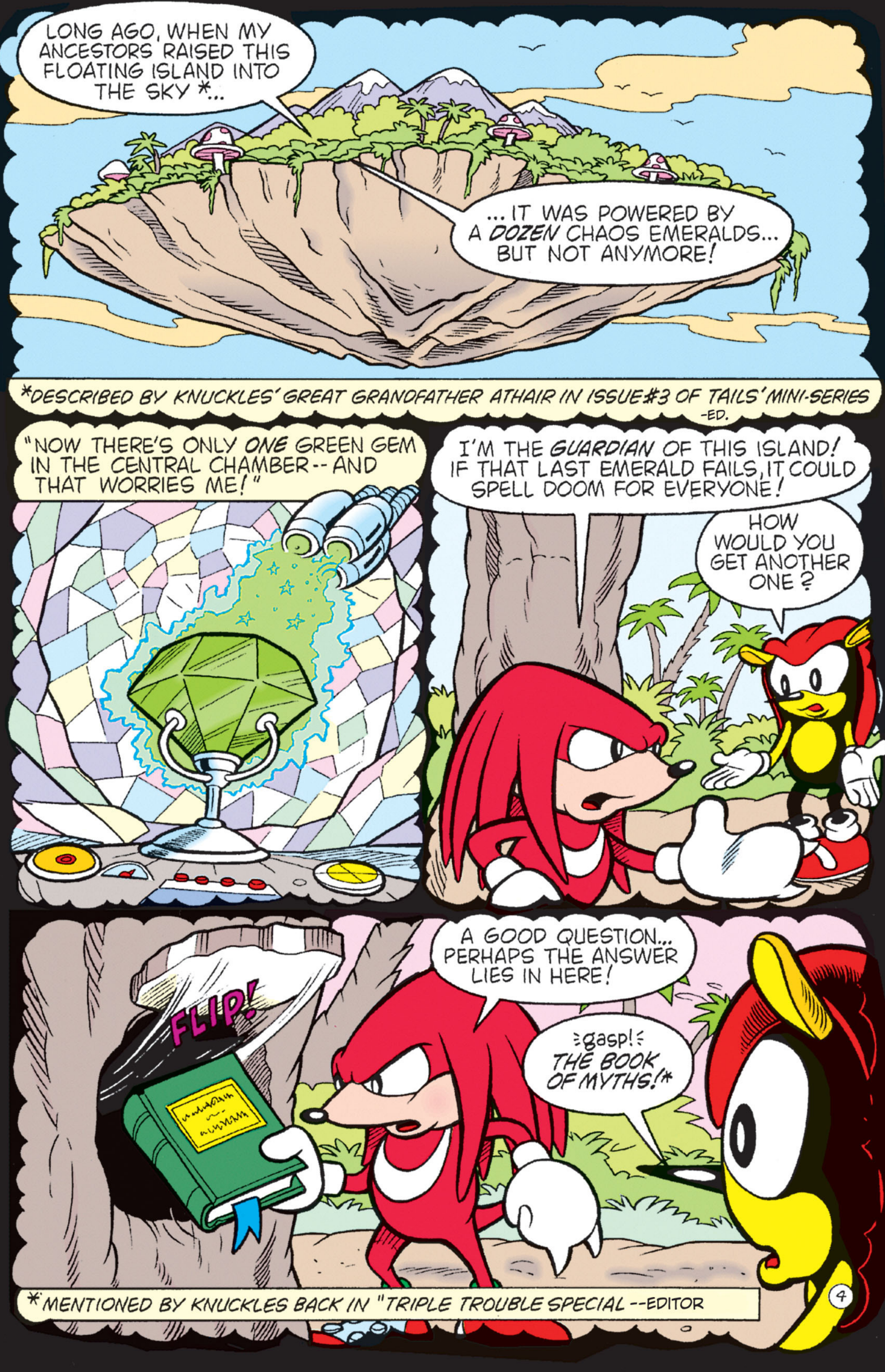
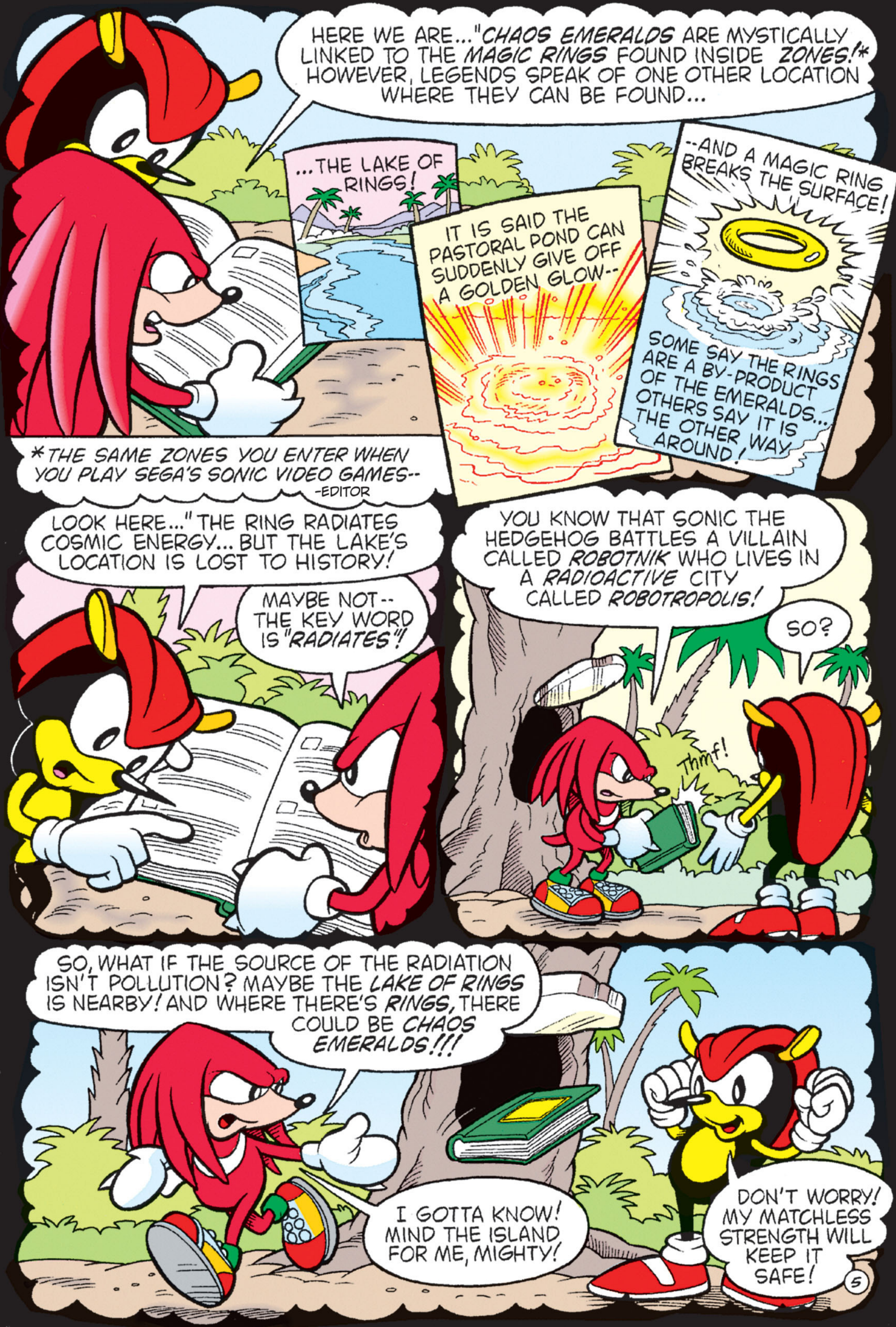
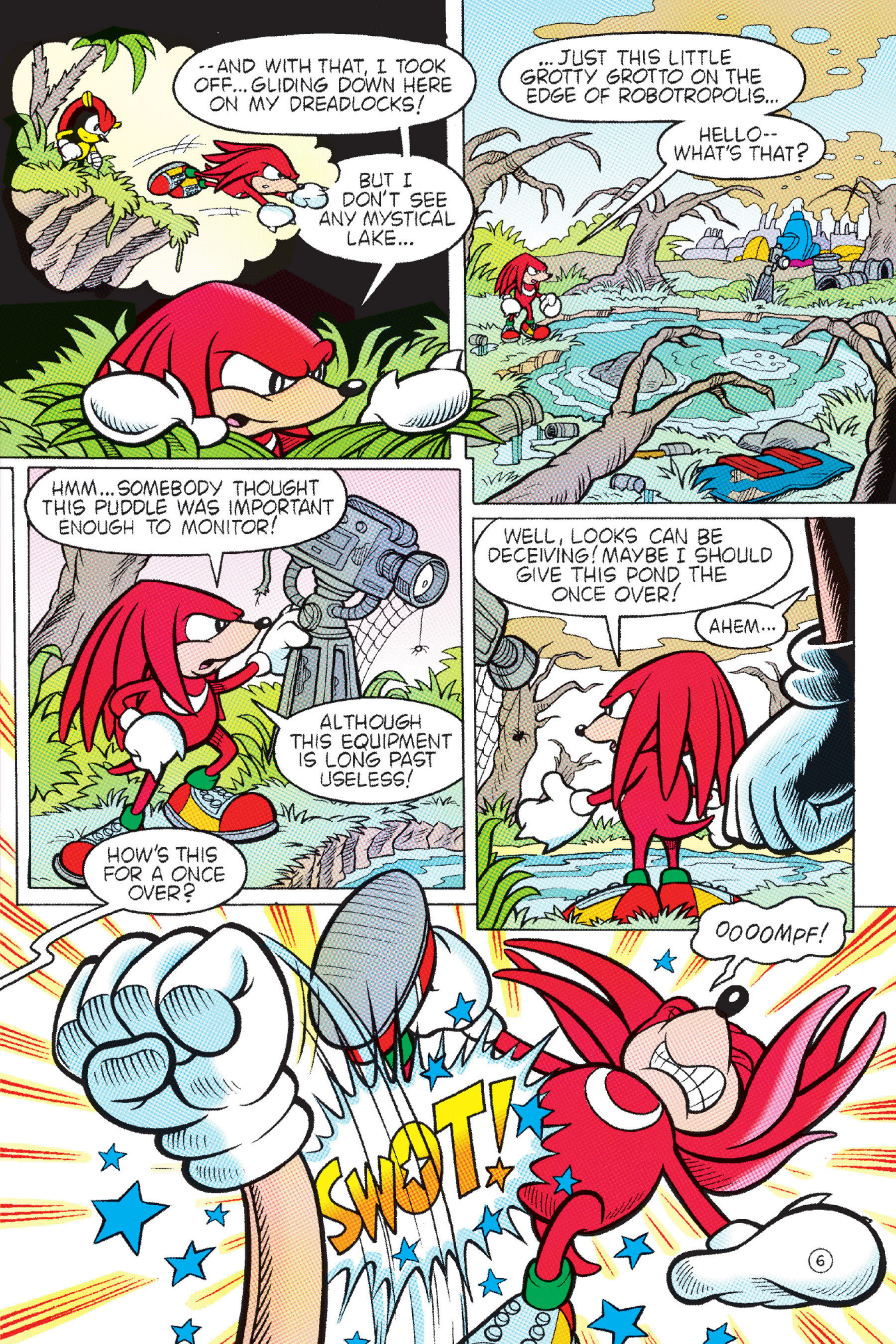

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG™
REPORT TO KNOTHOLE CONTROL STAT! WE HAVE A VISITOR--
KNUCKLES™ THE ECHIDNA!
HERE COMES THE EXPRESS!
NO WAY!
CRASH OF THE TITANS

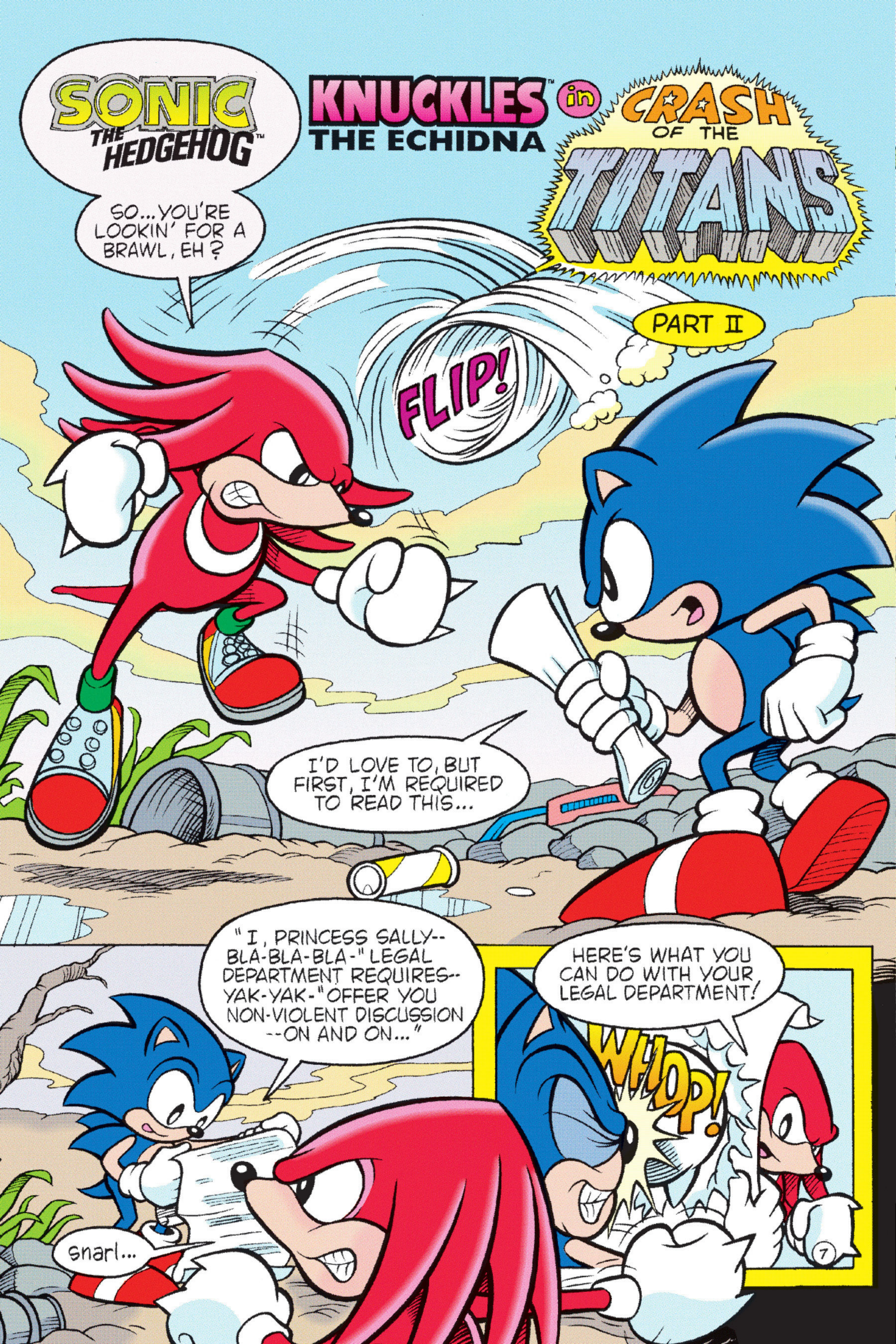

I'M AFRAID SO... HE'S WALKING ALONG THE OUTER EDGE OF THE *GREAT FOREST!*
BUT HE NEVER LEAVES HIS *FLOATING ISLAND* HOME!
THAT'S WHERE WE TANGLED LAST!*
I MET HIS GREAT GRAND-FATHER!**
*IN SONIC TRIPLE TROUBLE -ED.
**IN THE RECENTLY COMPLETED TAILS MINI-SERIES--*Mini* EDITOR
GRRRR... THAT DREADLOCKER MAKES MY SPINES TINGLE! HE'S UP TO NO GOOD!
I'LL SHOW YOU EXACTLY WHAT HE'S UP TO...
...THE BORDER OF *ROBOTROPOLIS!*
THE RED SKUNK IS GONNA CUT A DEAL WITH ROBOTNIK!
WE DON'T KNOW THAT, SONIC! I WANT YOU TO GO TALK TO HIM...DID YOU HEAR? TALK!
GOTCHA, SALLY...
SKREEEET...
sigh YEAH, RIGHT... WHAT DO THE ODDS MAKERS SAY?
FOUR TO ONE THEY'RE IN A FIGHT BY PAGE SIX!

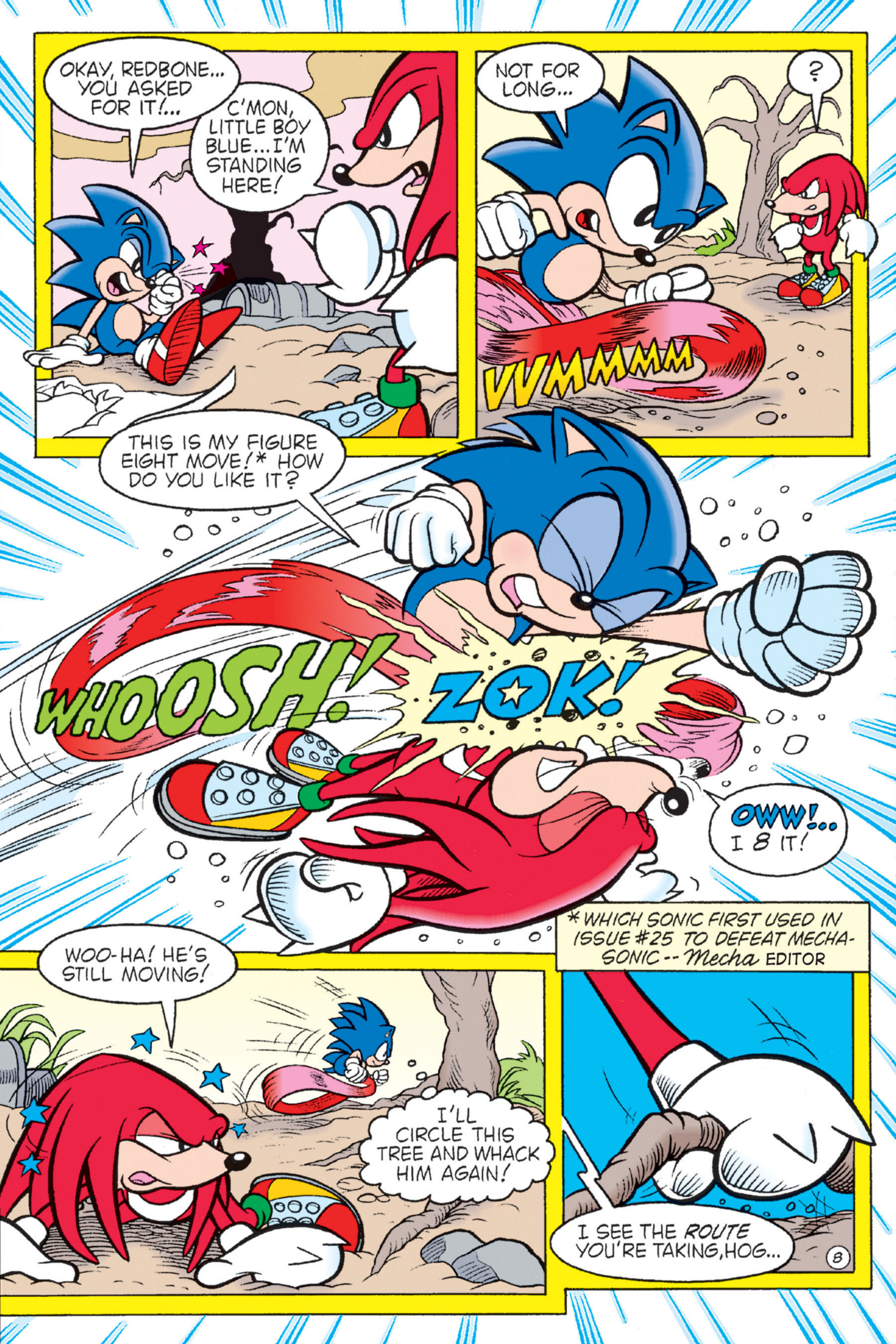

MEANWHILE...
PHEW! WHAT A DISGUSTING MESS! THESE LANDLUBBERS ARE LIVING PROOF THAT ECHIDNA SOCIETY WAS RIGHT TO ABANDON TECHNOLOGY AND REVERT TO BEING ENVIRONMENT-FRIENDLY!*
*WHAT IS KNUX REFERRING TO? STAY TUNED FOR SOLO *KNUCKLES* STORIES IN *SONIC* --EDITOR
"IN FACT, THAT'S THE VERY REASON I'M HERE... JUST AS I WAS SAYING TO *MIGHTY THE ARMADILLO,* ONE OF THE *CHAOTIX...*"
I SAW IT HAPPEN! A CHAOS EMERALD BROKEN IN HALF!*
BUT ISN'T THAT IMPOSSIBLE?
*IN THE AFOREMENTIONED TRIPLE TROUBLE --EDITOR
FROM WHAT YOU'VE TOLD ME ABOUT THEM, THOSE GEMSTONES ARE THE *ULTIMATE ENERGY SOURCE!*
I WAS THERE, MIGHTY! IT *CAN* HAPPEN...ONLY I WON'T LET IT HAPPEN HERE!

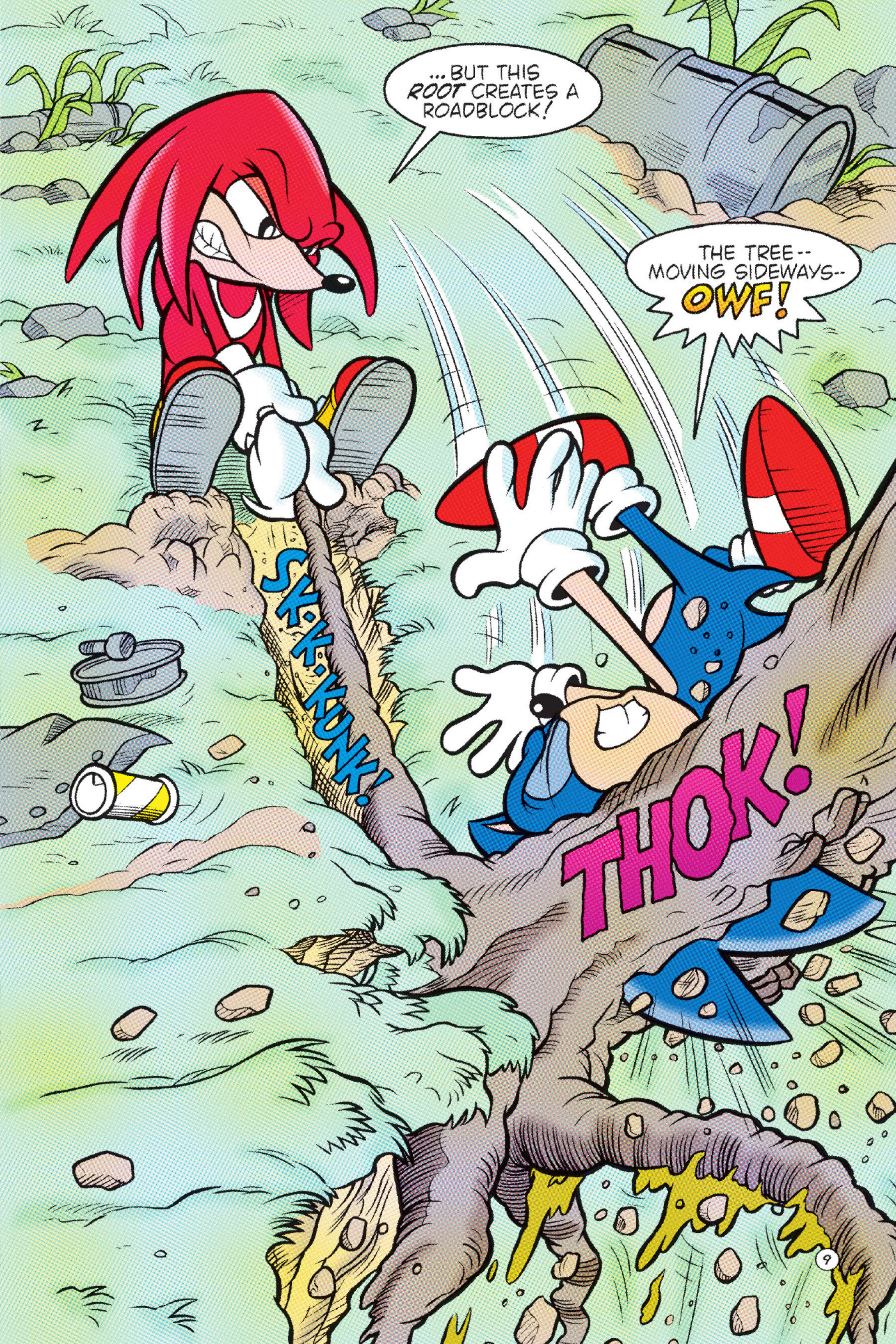

LONG AGO, WHEN MY ANCESTORS RAISED THIS FLOATING ISLAND INTO THE SKY *...
... IT WAS POWERED BY A *DOZEN* CHAOS EMERALDS... BUT NOT ANYMORE!
*DESCRIBED BY KNUCKLES' GREAT GRANDFATHER ATHAIR IN ISSUE #3 OF TAILS' MINI-SERIES -ED.
"NOW THERE'S ONLY *ONE* GREEN GEM IN THE CENTRAL CHAMBER -- AND THAT WORRIES ME!"
I'M THE *GUARDIAN* OF THIS ISLAND! IF THAT LAST EMERALD FAILS, IT COULD SPELL DOOM FOR EVERYONE!
HOW WOULD YOU GET ANOTHER ONE ?
FLIP!
A GOOD QUESTION... PERHAPS THE ANSWER LIES IN HERE!
gasp! *THE BOOK OF MYTHS!**
*MENTIONED BY KNUCKLES BACK IN "TRIPLE TROUBLE SPECIAL --EDITOR

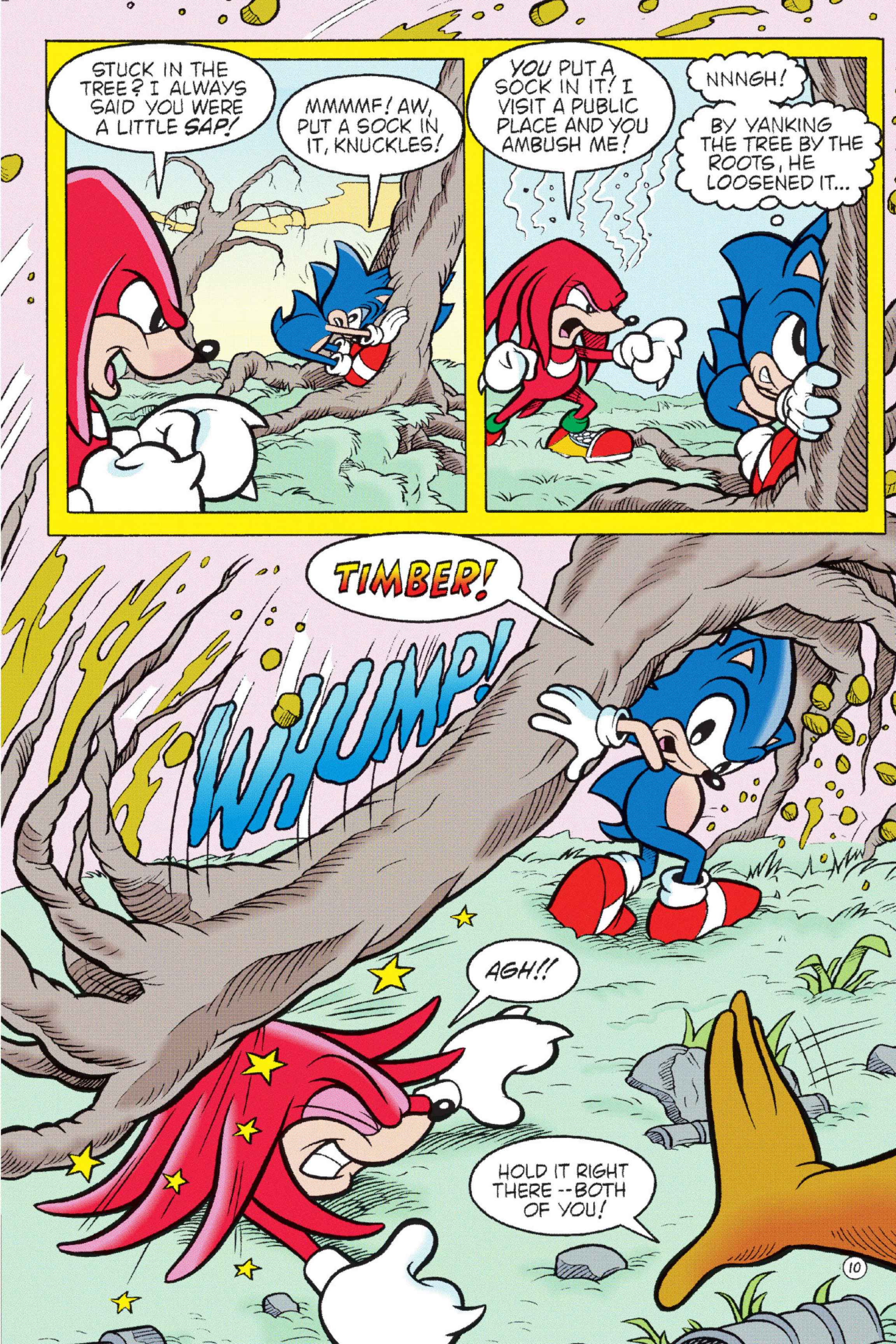

HERE WE ARE..."CHAOS EMERALDS ARE MYSTICALLY LINKED TO THE MAGIC RINGS FOUND INSIDE ZONES!* HOWEVER, LEGENDS SPEAK OF ONE OTHER LOCATION WHERE THEY CAN BE FOUND...
...THE LAKE OF RINGS!
IT IS SAID THE PASTORAL POND CAN SUDDENLY GIVE OFF A GOLDEN GLOW--
--AND A MAGIC RING BREAKS THE SURFACE!
SOME SAY THE RINGS ARE A BY-PRODUCT OF THE EMERALDS... OTHERS SAY IT IS THE OTHER WAY AROUND!
*THE SAME ZONES YOU ENTER WHEN YOU PLAY SEGA'S SONIC VIDEO GAMES-- -EDITOR
LOOK HERE..."THE RING RADIATES COSMIC ENERGY... BUT THE LAKE'S LOCATION IS LOST TO HISTORY!
MAYBE NOT-- THE KEY WORD IS "RADIATES"!
YOU KNOW THAT SONIC THE HEDGEHOG BATTLES A VILLAIN CALLED ROBOTNIK WHO LIVES IN A RADIOACTIVE CITY CALLED ROBOTROPOLIS!
SO?
Thmf!
SO, WHAT IF THE SOURCE OF THE RADIATION ISN'T POLLUTION? MAYBE THE LAKE OF RINGS IS NEARBY! AND WHERE THERE'S RINGS, THERE COULD BE CHAOS EMERALDS!!!
I GOTTA KNOW! MIND THE ISLAND FOR ME, MIGHTY!
DON'T WORRY! MY MATCHLESS STRENGTH WILL KEEP IT SAFE!
5

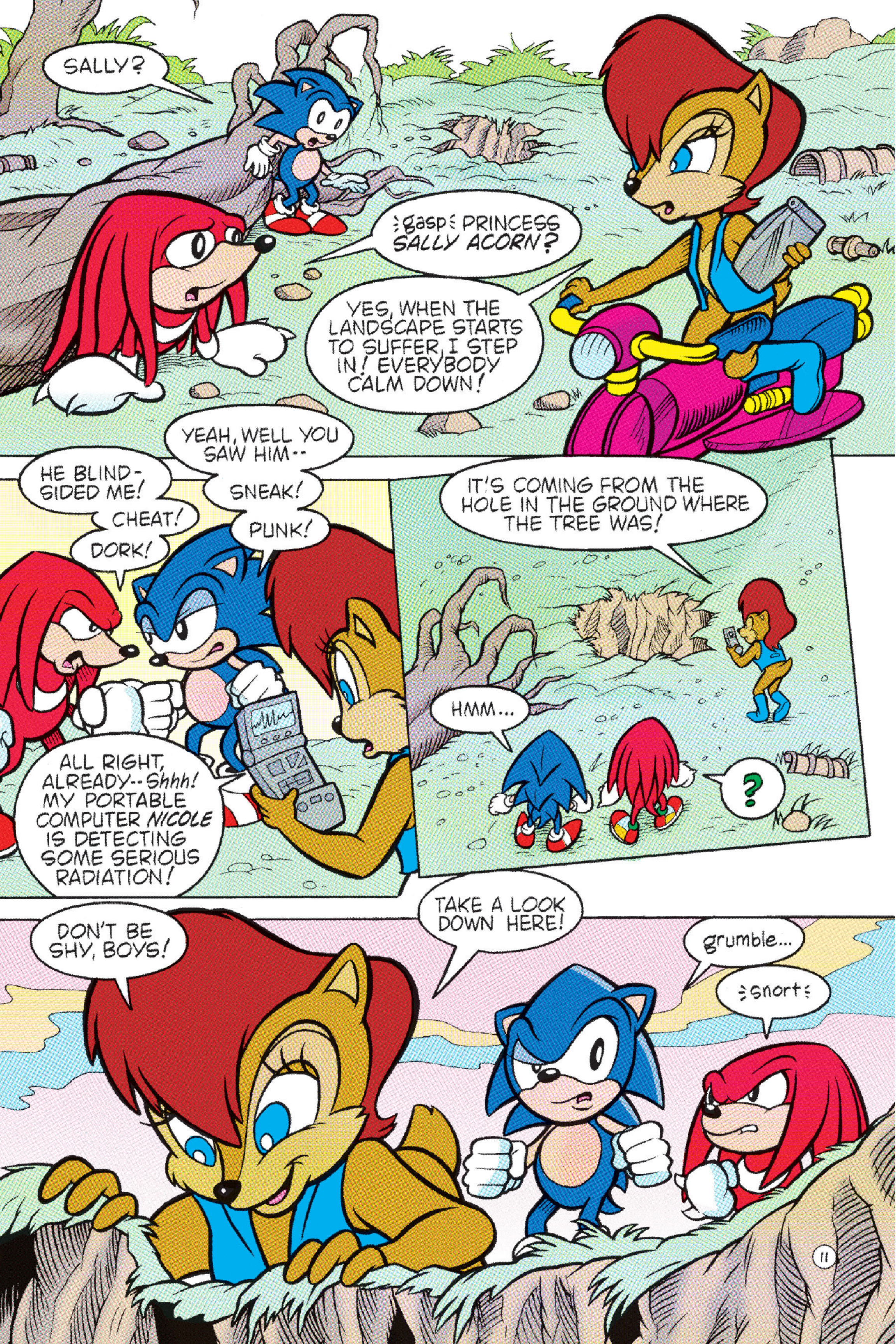

--AND WITH THAT, I TOOK OFF... GLIDING DOWN HERE ON MY DREADLOCKS!
BUT I DON'T SEE ANY MYSTICAL LAKE...
...JUST THIS LITTLE GROTTY GROTTO ON THE EDGE OF ROBOTROPOLIS...
HELLO-- WHAT'S THAT?
HMM... SOMEBODY THOUGHT THIS PUDDLE WAS IMPORTANT ENOUGH TO MONITOR!
ALTHOUGH THIS EQUIPMENT IS LONG PAST USELESS!
WELL, LOOKS CAN BE DECEIVING! MAYBE I SHOULD GIVE THIS POND THE ONCE OVER!
AHEM...
HOW'S THIS FOR A ONCE OVER?
OOOOMPF!
SWOT!

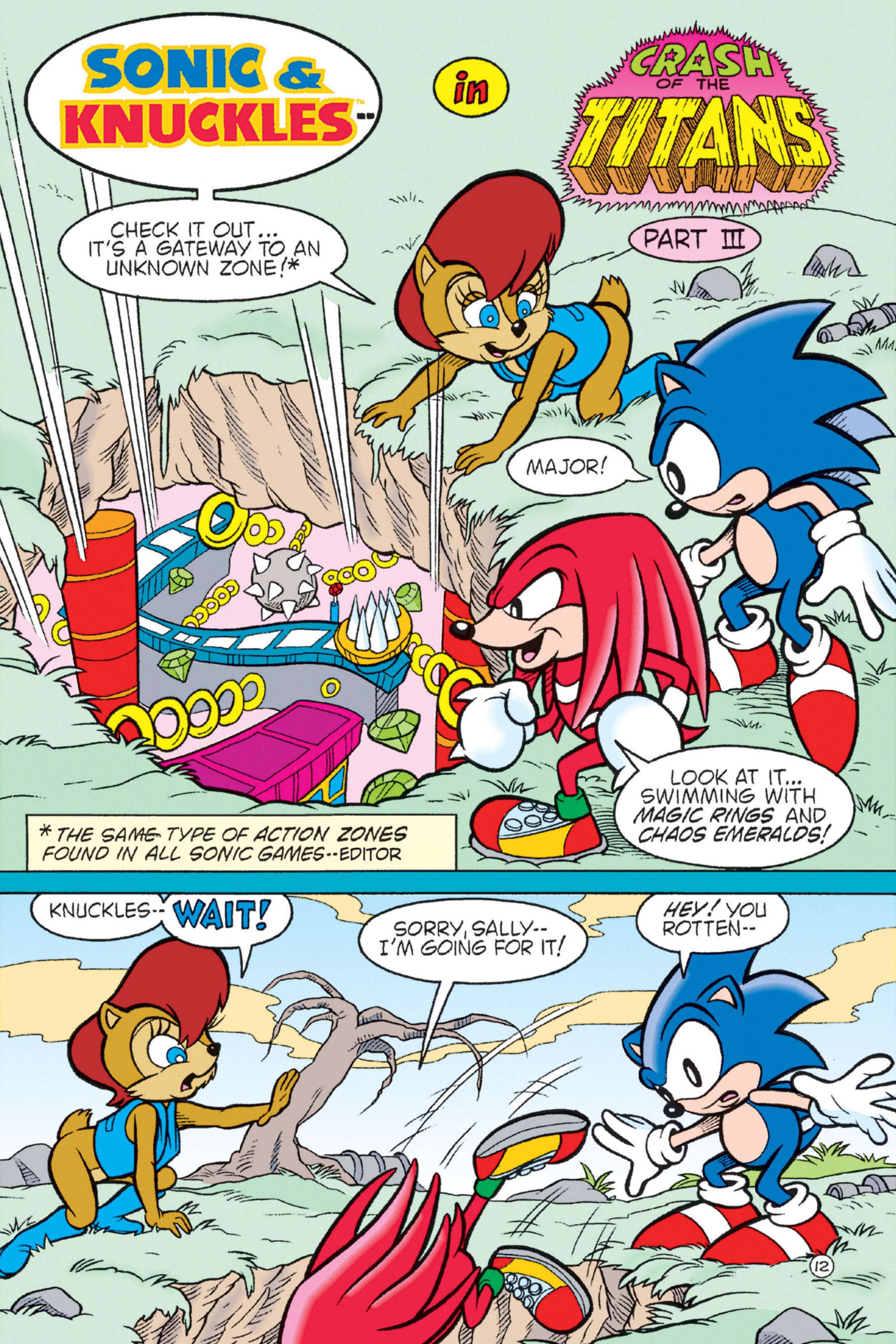

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG™
KNUCKLES™ THE ECHIDNA
in
CRASH OF THE TITANS
PART II
SO... YOU'RE LOOKIN' FOR A BRAWL, EH?
FLIP!
I'D LOVE TO, BUT FIRST, I'M REQUIRED TO READ THIS...
"I, PRINCESS SALLY-- BLA-BLA-BLA-" LEGAL DEPARTMENT REQUIRES-- YAK-YAK-"OFFER YOU NON-VIOLENT DISCUSSION --ON AND ON..."
snarl...
HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN DO WITH YOUR LEGAL DEPARTMENT!
WHOOP!

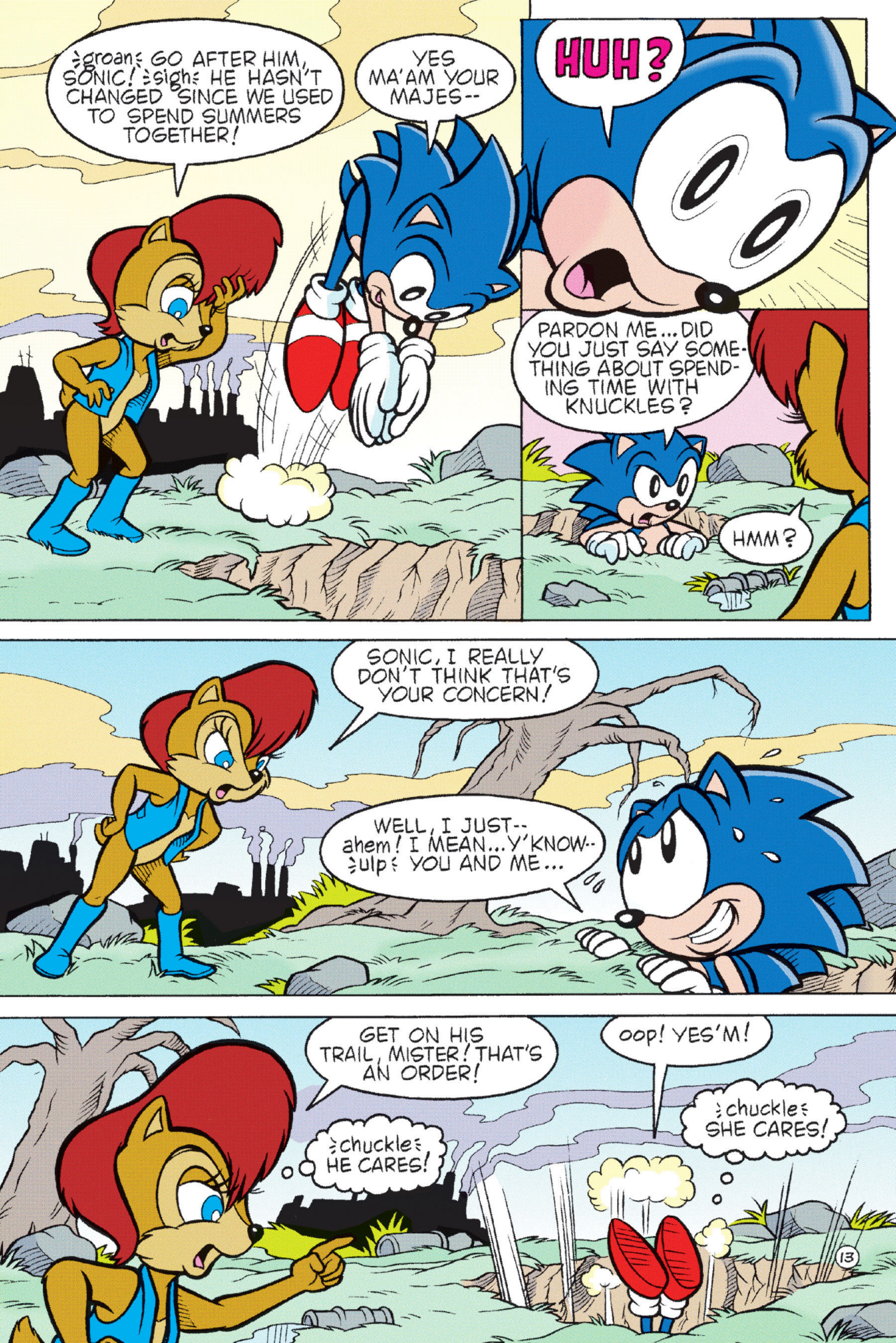

OKAY, REDBONE... YOU ASKED FOR IT!...
C'MON, LITTLE BOY BLUE...I'M STANDING HERE!
NOT FOR LONG...
?
VVMMMM
THIS IS MY FIGURE EIGHT MOVE!* HOW DO YOU LIKE IT?
WHOOSH!
ZOK!
OWW!... I 8 IT!
*WHICH SONIC FIRST USED IN ISSUE #25 TO DEFEAT MECHA-SONIC -- Mecha EDITOR
WOO-HA! HE'S STILL MOVING!
I'LL CIRCLE THIS TREE AND WHACK HIM AGAIN!
I SEE THE ROUTE YOU'RE TAKING, HOG...

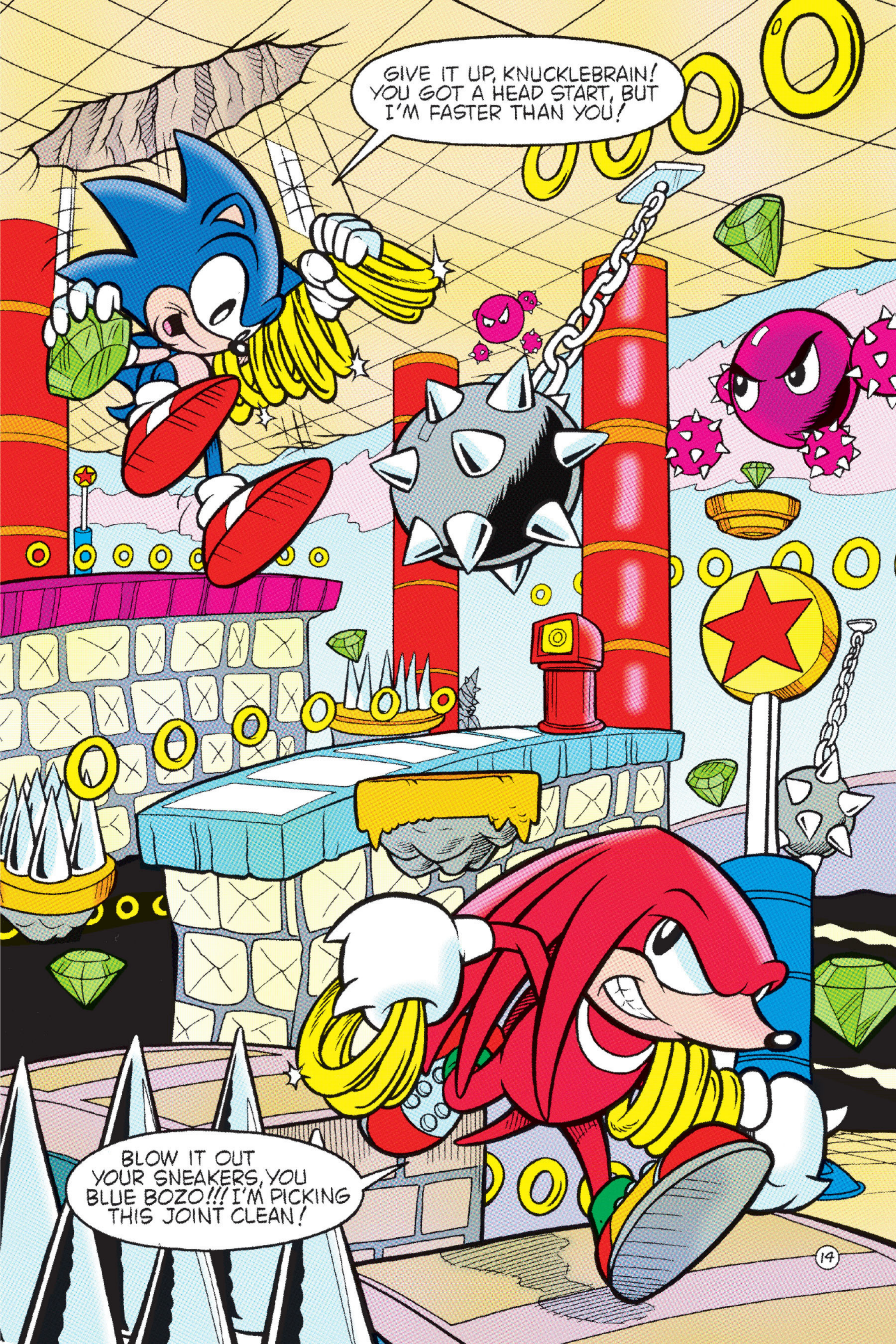

...BUT THIS *ROOT* CREATES A ROADBLOCK!
THE TREE-- MOVING SIDEWAYS-- OWF!
SK-K-KUNK!
THOK!

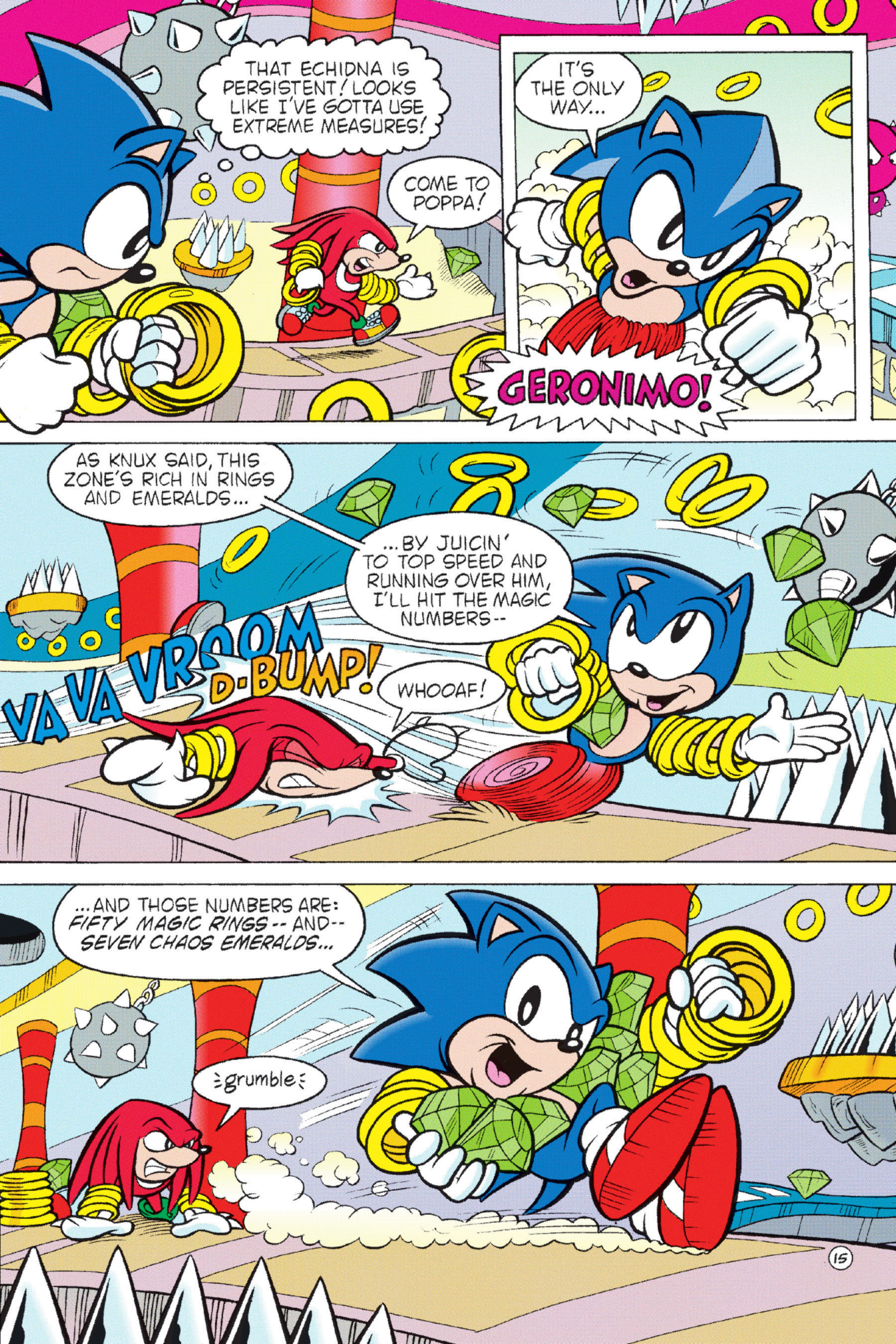

STUCK IN THE TREE? I ALWAYS SAID YOU WERE A LITTLE *SAP!*
MMMMF! AW, PUT A SOCK IN IT, KNUCKLES!
YOU PUT A SOCK IN IT! I VISIT A PUBLIC PLACE AND YOU AMBUSH ME!
NNNGH!
BY YANKING THE TREE BY THE ROOTS, HE LOOSENED IT...
TIMBER!
WHUMP!
AGH!!
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE --BOTH OF YOU!

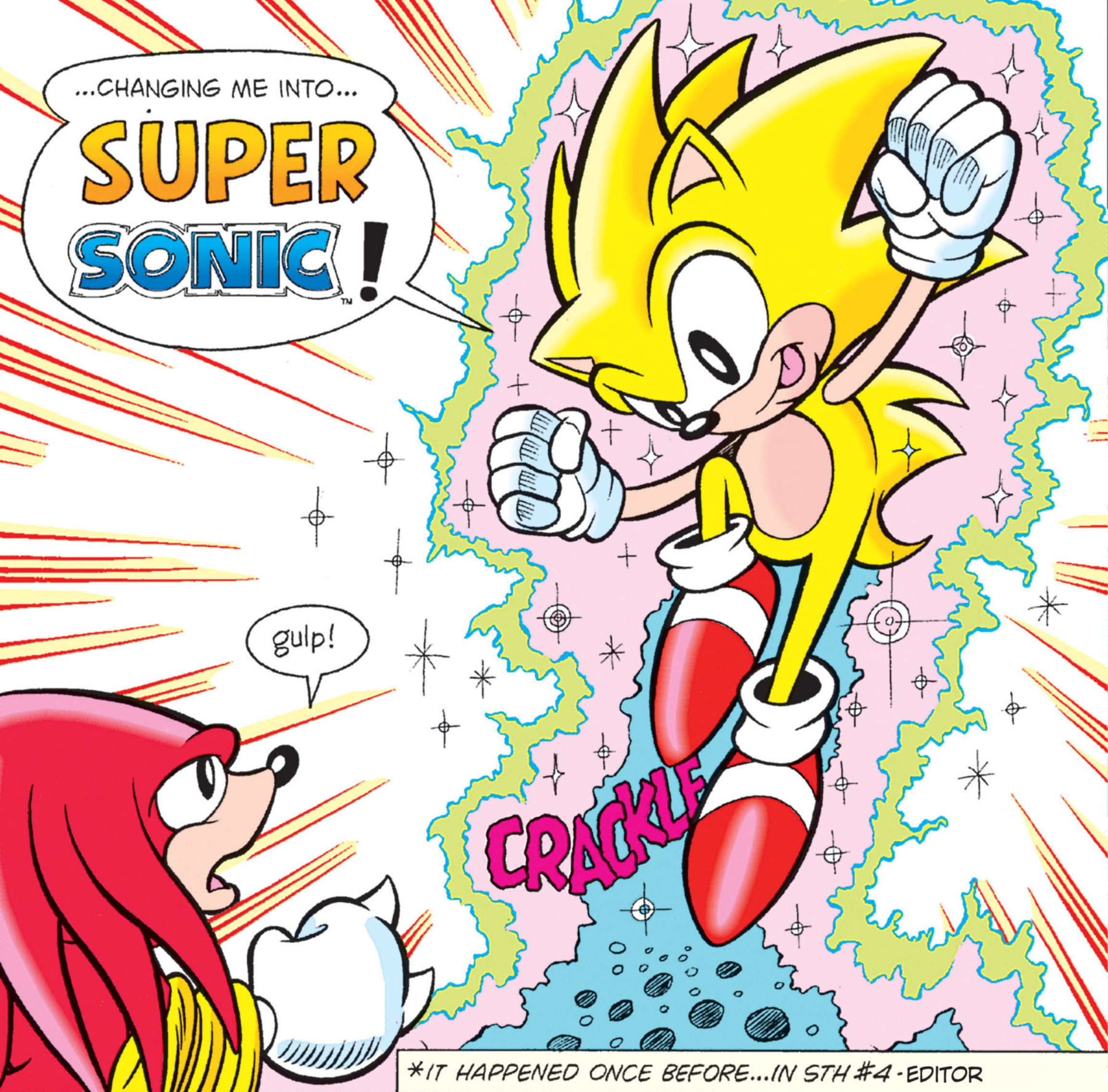

SALLY?
:gasp: PRINCESS *SALLY ACORN*?
YES, WHEN THE LANDSCAPE STARTS TO SUFFER, I STEP IN! EVERYBODY CALM DOWN!
HE BLIND-SIDED ME!
YEAH, WELL YOU SAW HIM--
CHEAT!
SNEAK!
DORK!
PUNK!
ALL RIGHT, ALREADY--*Shhh!* MY PORTABLE COMPUTER *NICOLE* IS DETECTING SOME SERIOUS RADIATION!
IT'S COMING FROM THE HOLE IN THE GROUND WHERE THE TREE WAS!
HMM...
?
DON'T BE SHY, BOYS!
TAKE A LOOK DOWN HERE!
grumble...
:snort:

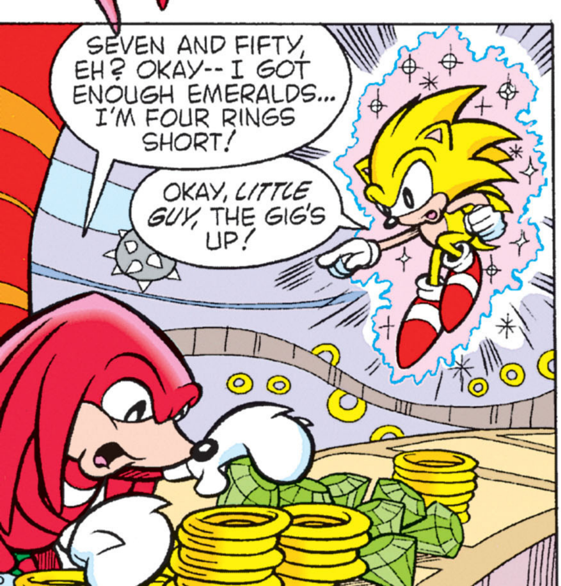

SONIC & KNUCKLES™--
in
CRASH OF THE TITANS
PART III
CHECK IT OUT... IT'S A GATEWAY TO AN UNKNOWN ZONE!*
MAJOR!
LOOK AT IT... SWIMMING WITH *MAGIC RINGS* AND *CHAOS EMERALDS!*
* THE SAME TYPE OF ACTION ZONES FOUND IN ALL SONIC GAMES--EDITOR
KNUCKLES-- WAIT!
SORRY, SALLY-- I'M GOING FOR IT!
HEY! YOU ROTTEN--

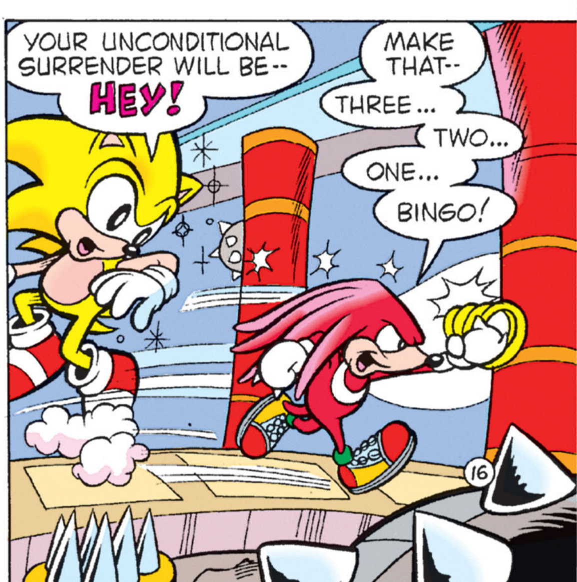

groan GO AFTER HIM, SONIC! sigh HE HASN'T CHANGED SINCE WE USED TO SPEND SUMMERS TOGETHER!
YES MA'AM YOUR MAJES--
HUH?
PARDON ME... DID YOU JUST SAY SOMETHING ABOUT SPENDING TIME WITH KNUCKLES?
HMM?
SONIC, I REALLY DON'T THINK THAT'S YOUR CONCERN!
WELL, I JUST-- ahem! I MEAN... Y'KNOW-- ulp YOU AND ME...
GET ON HIS TRAIL, MISTER! THAT'S AN ORDER!
oop! YES'M!
chuckle HE CARES!
chuckle SHE CARES!

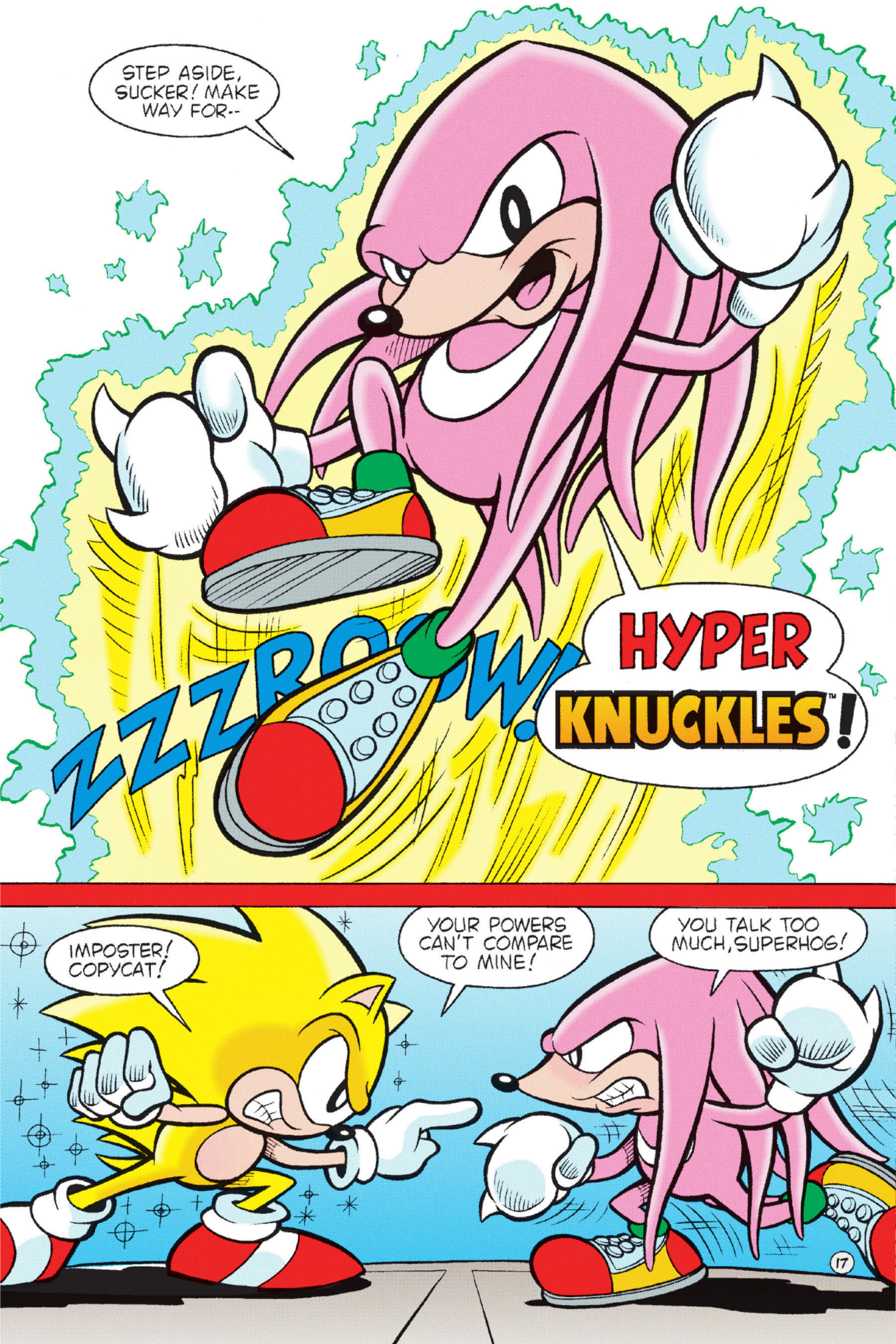

GIVE IT UP, KNUCKLEBRAIN! YOU GOT A HEAD START, BUT I'M FASTER THAN YOU!
BLOW IT OUT YOUR SNEAKERS, YOU BLUE BOZO!!! I'M PICKING THIS JOINT CLEAN!

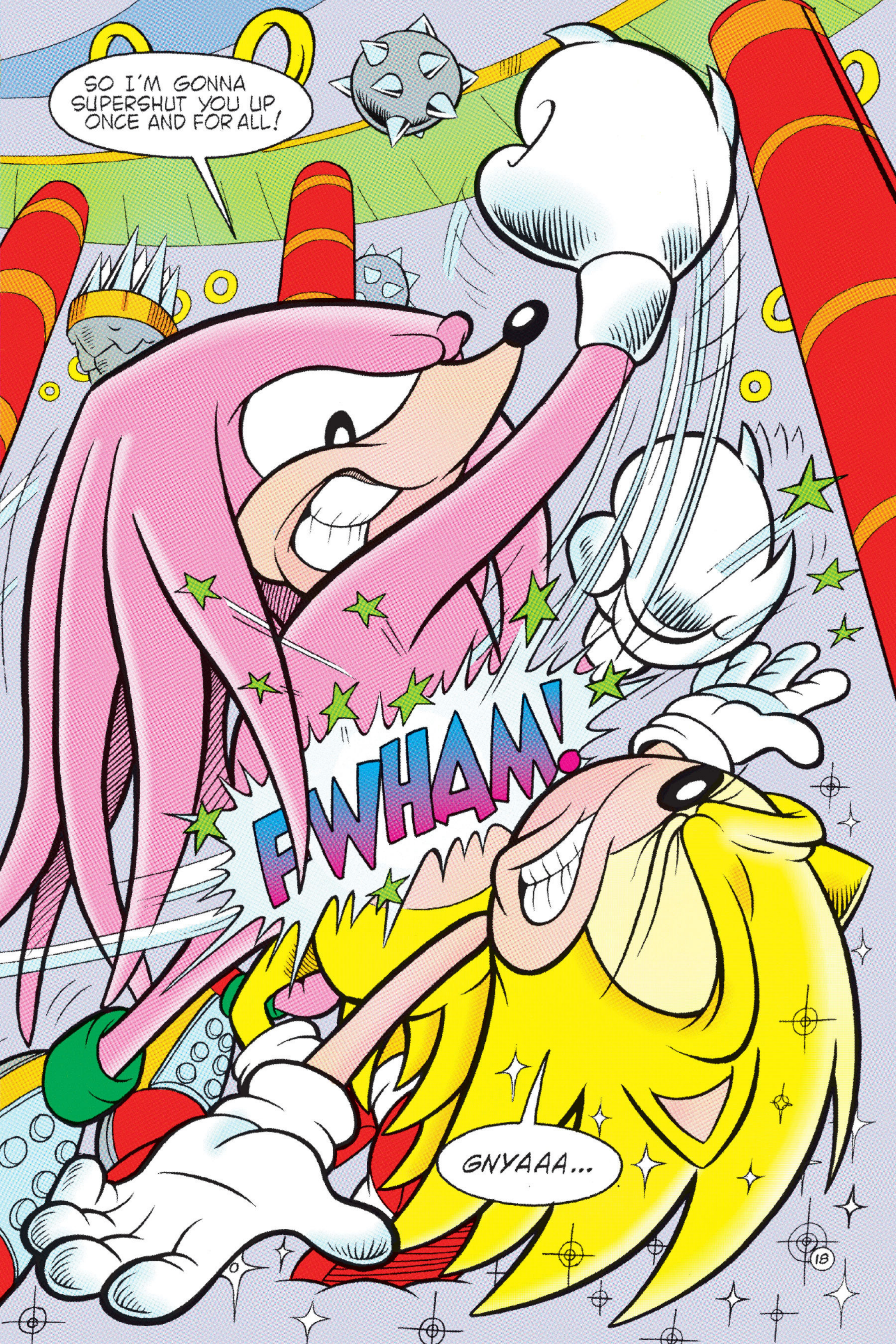

THAT ECHIDNA IS PERSISTENT! LOOKS LIKE I'VE GOTTA USE EXTREME MEASURES!
COME TO POPPA!
IT'S THE ONLY WAY...
GERONIMO!
AS KNUX SAID, THIS ZONE'S RICH IN RINGS AND EMERALDS...
...BY JUICIN' TO TOP SPEED AND RUNNING OVER HIM, I'LL HIT THE MAGIC NUMBERS--
VA VA VROOM
D-BUMP!
WHOOAF!
...AND THOSE NUMBERS ARE: *FIFTY MAGIC RINGS*--AND--*SEVEN CHAOS EMERALDS*...
grumble

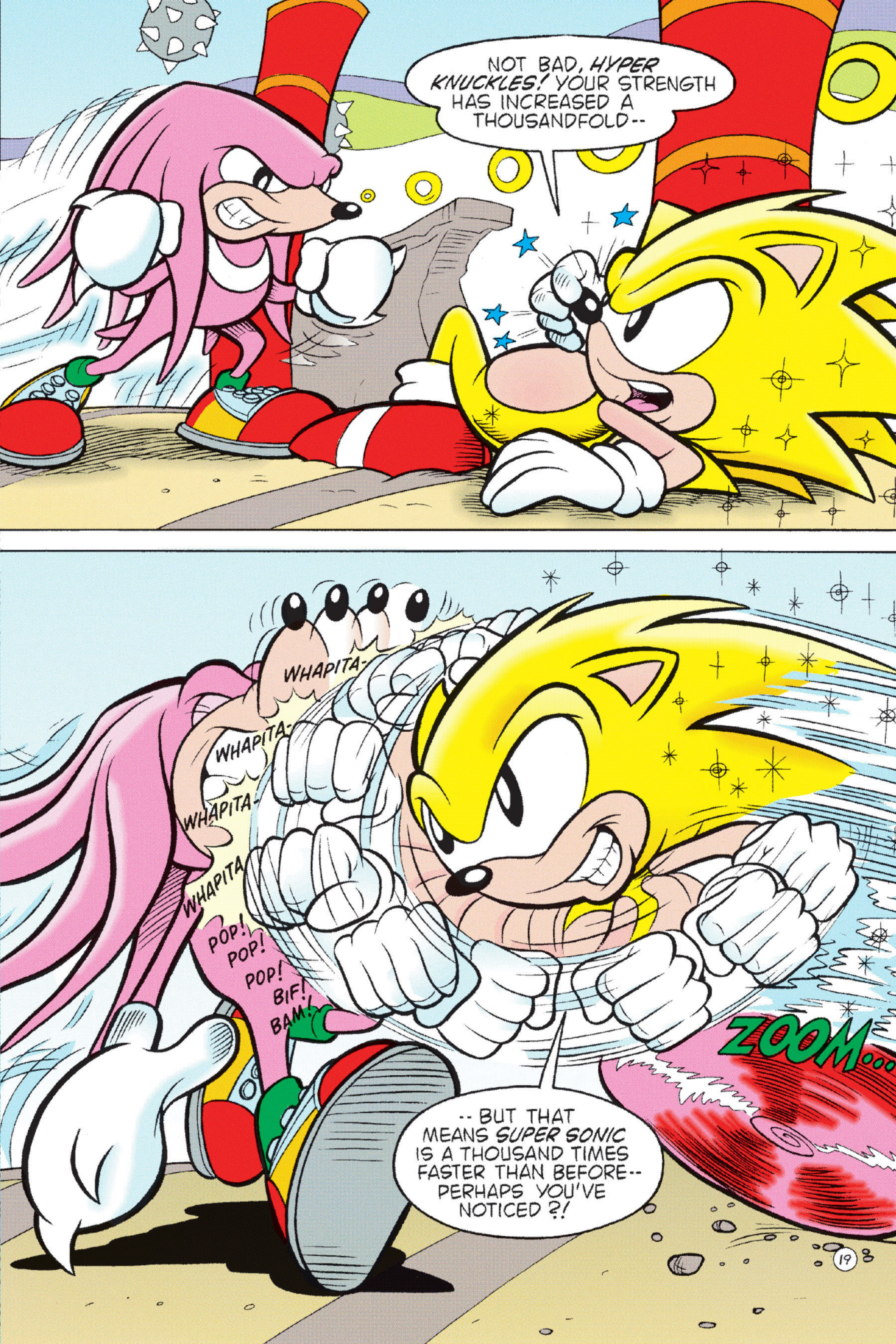

...CHANGING ME INTO...
SUPER SONIC™!
gulp!
CRACKLE
*IT HAPPENED ONCE BEFORE...IN STH #4 -EDITOR

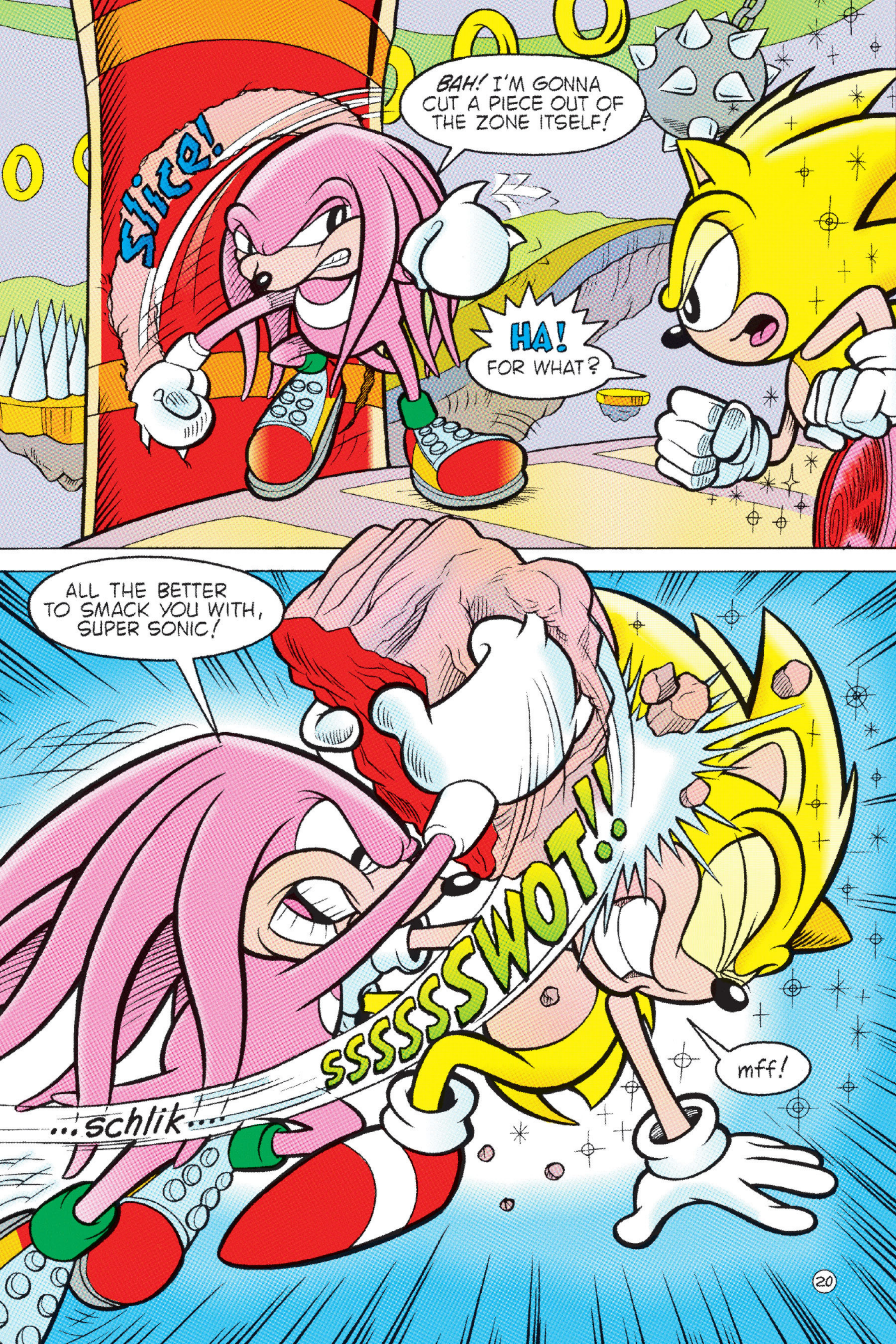

SEVEN AND FIFTY, EH? OKAY-- I GOT ENOUGH EMERALDS... I'M FOUR RINGS SHORT!
OKAY, *LITTLE GUY,* THE GIG'S UP!

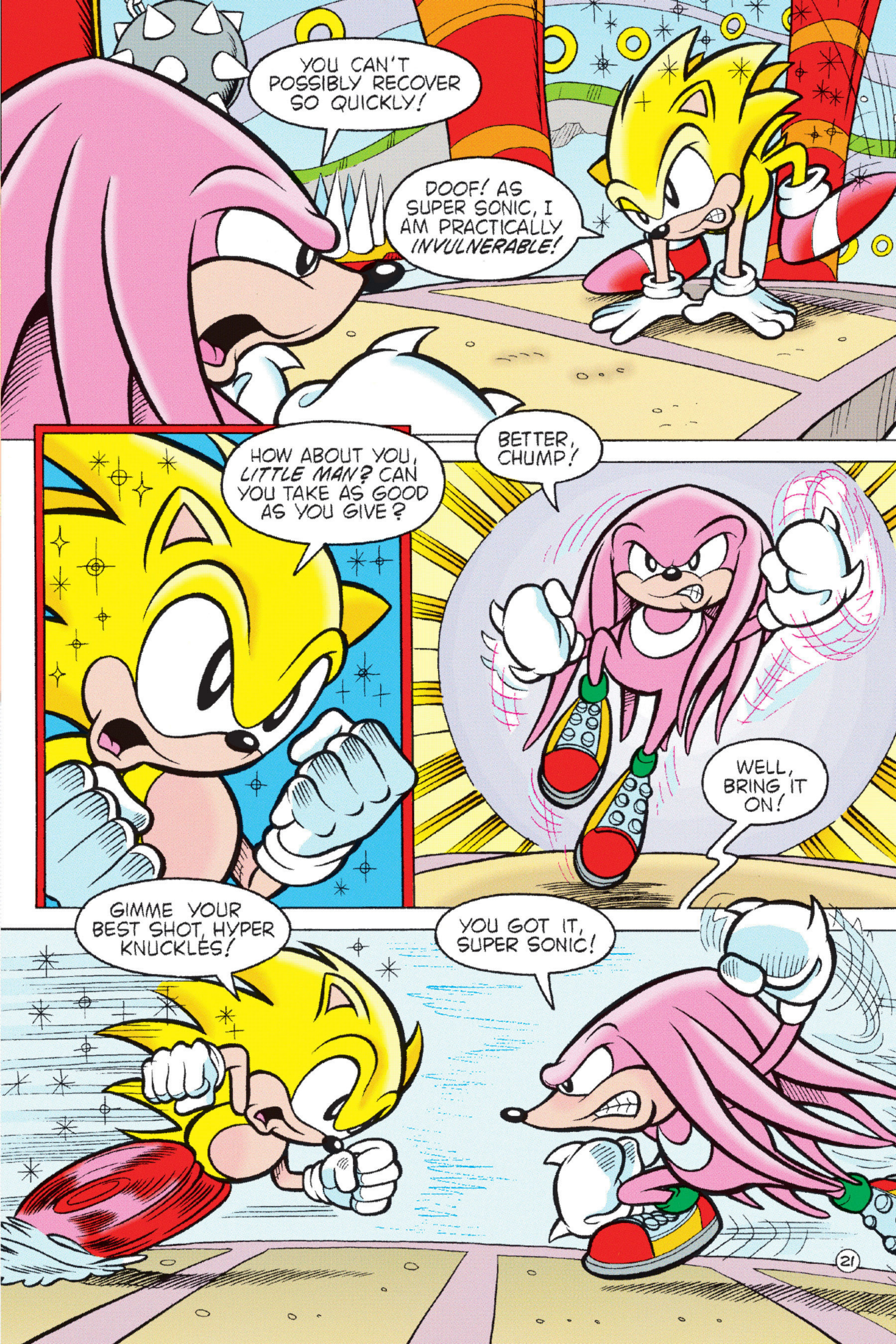

YOUR UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER WILL BE--
HEY!
MAKE THAT--
THREE...
TWO...
ONE...
BINGO!

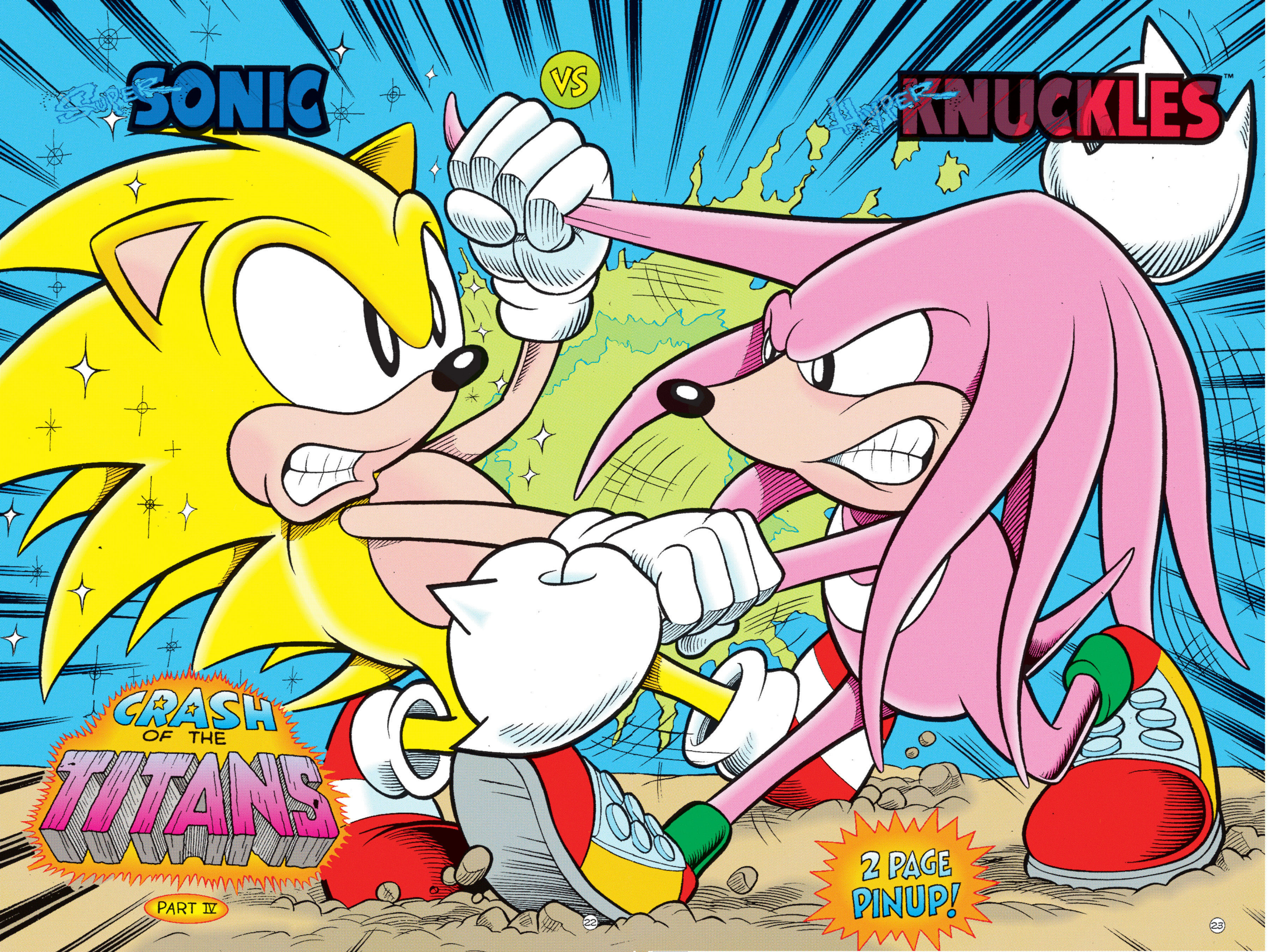

STEP ASIDE, SUCKER! MAKE WAY FOR--
ZZZROOW!
HYPER KNUCKLES™!
IMPOSTER! COPYCAT!
YOUR POWERS CAN'T COMPARE TO MINE!
YOU TALK TOO MUCH, SUPERHOG!

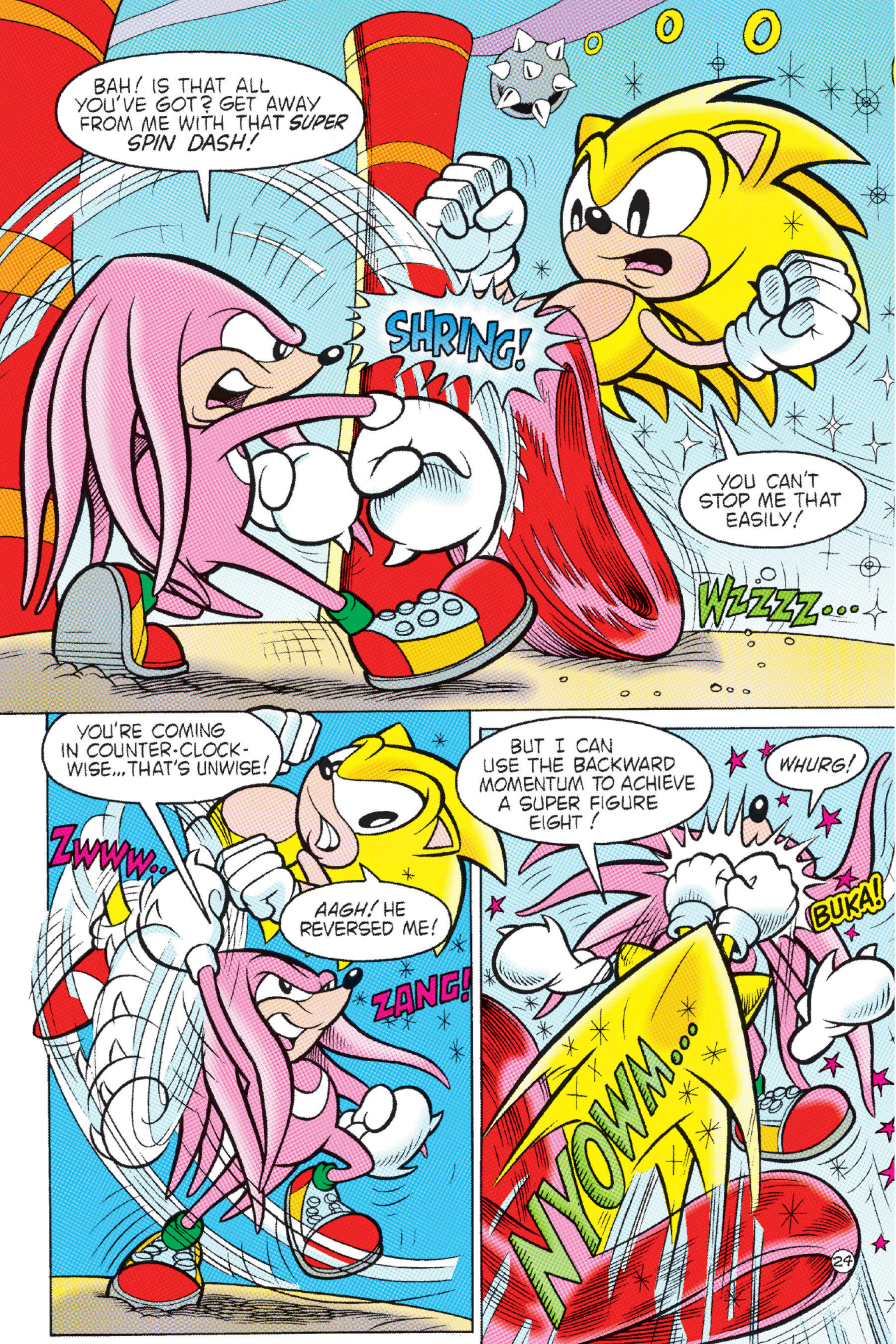

SO I'M GONNA SUPERSHUT YOU UP ONCE AND FOR ALL!
FWHAM!
GNYAAA...

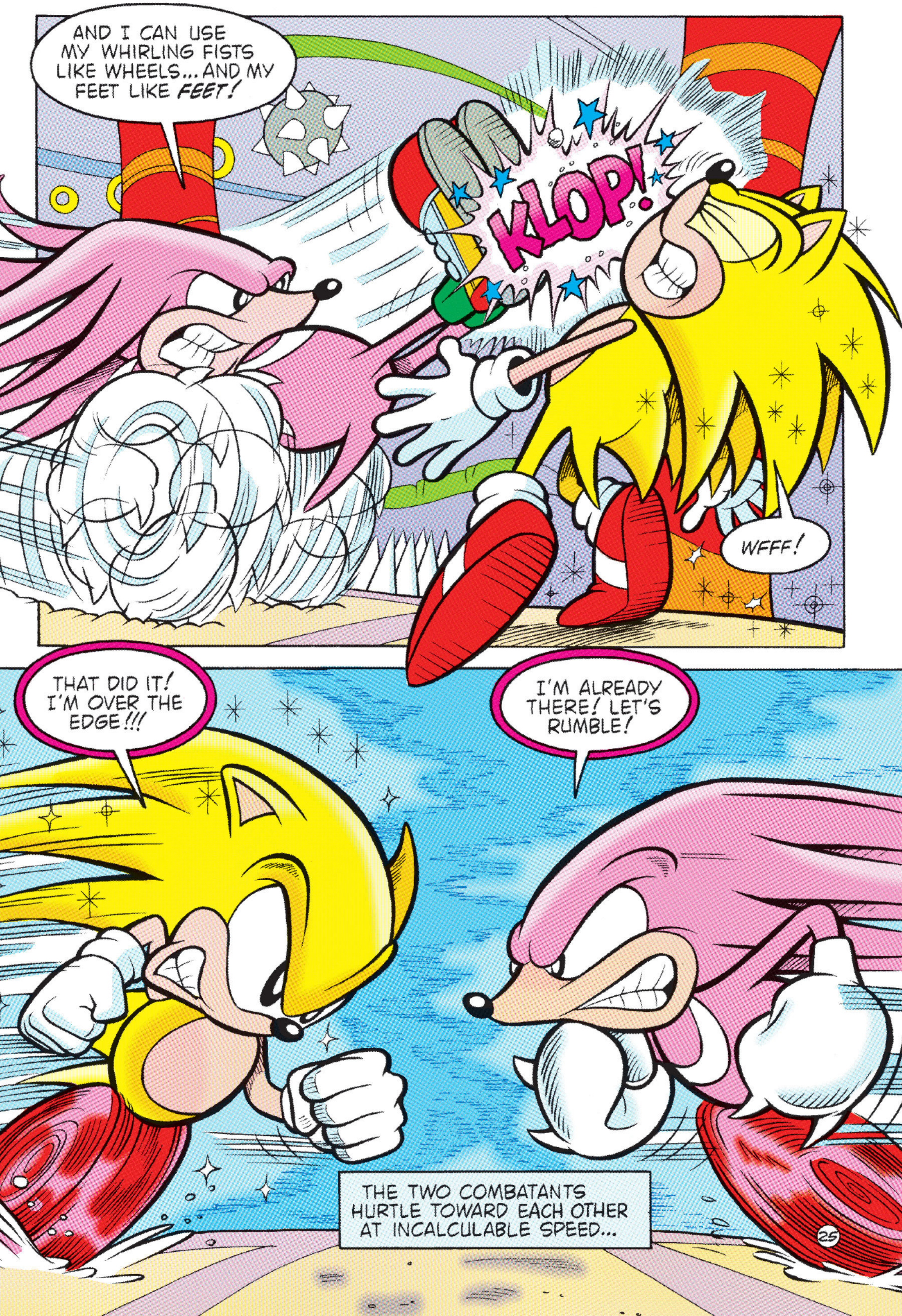

NOT BAD, *HYPER KNUCKLES!* YOUR STRENGTH HAS INCREASED A THOUSANDFOLD--
WHAPITA-
WHAPITA-
WHAPITA-
WHAPITA
POP! POP! POP! BIF! BAM!
ZOOM...
-- BUT THAT MEANS *SUPER SONIC* IS A THOUSAND TIMES FASTER THAN BEFORE-- PERHAPS YOU'VE NOTICED ?!

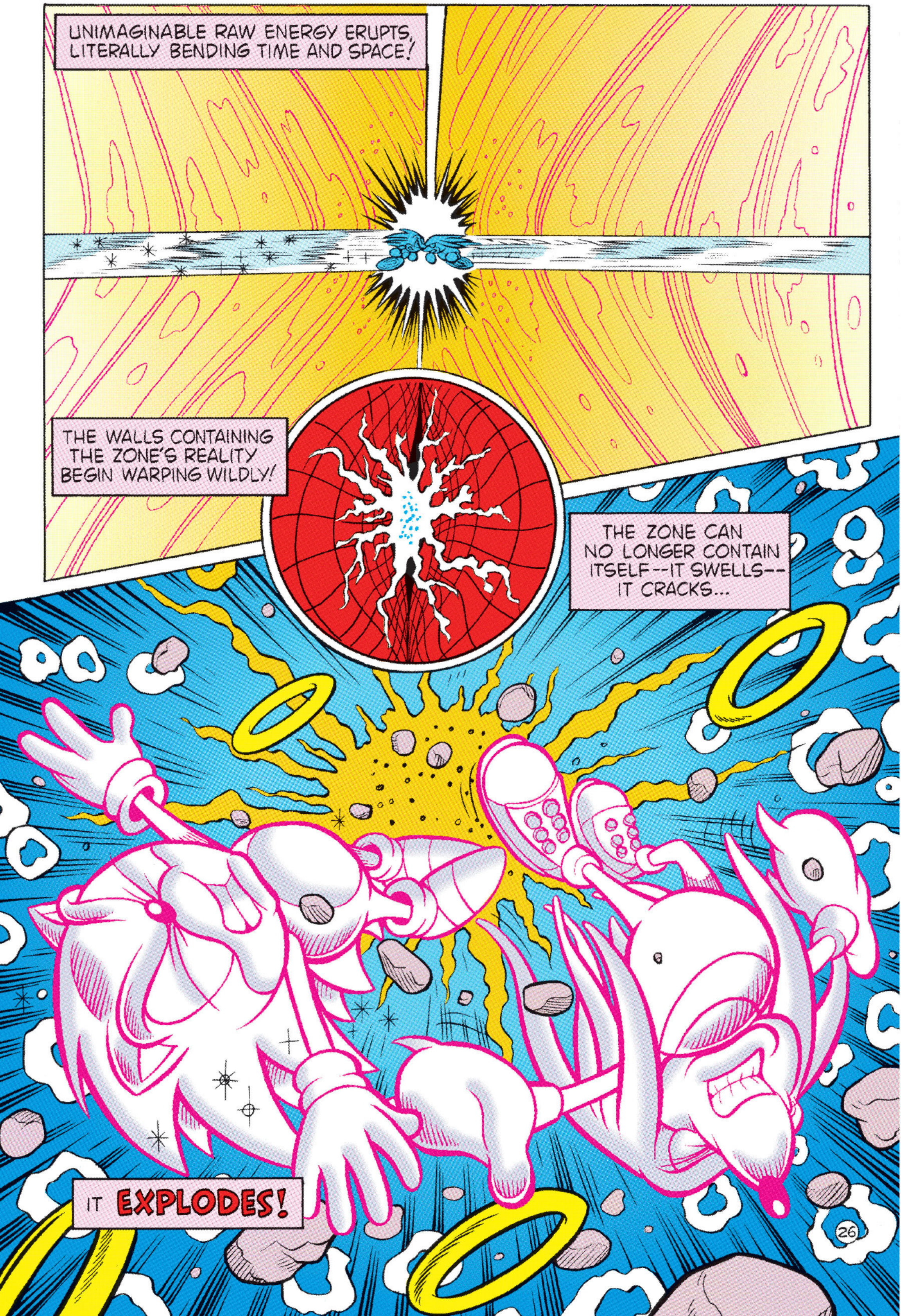

Slice!
BAH! I'M GONNA CUT A PIECE OUT OF THE ZONE ITSELF!
HA! FOR WHAT?
ALL THE BETTER TO SMACK YOU WITH, SUPER SONIC!
SSSSSSWOT!!
...schlik...!
mff!

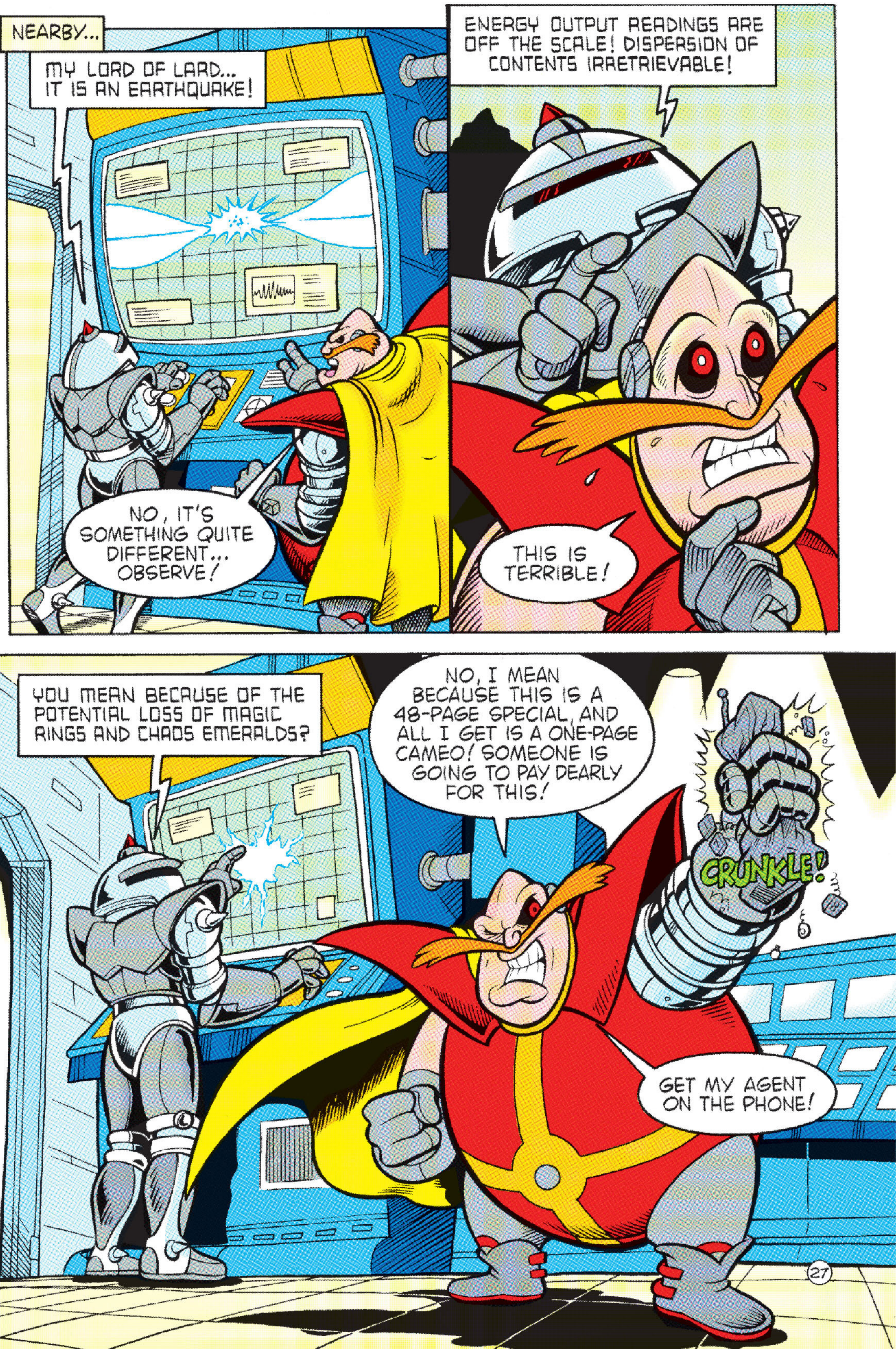

YOU CAN'T POSSIBLY RECOVER SO QUICKLY!
DOOF! AS SUPER SONIC, I AM PRACTICALLY *INVULNERABLE!*
HOW ABOUT YOU, *LITTLE MAN?* CAN YOU TAKE AS GOOD AS YOU GIVE?
BETTER, CHUMP!
WELL, BRING IT ON!
GIMME YOUR BEST SHOT, HYPER KNUCKLES!
YOU GOT IT, SUPER SONIC!

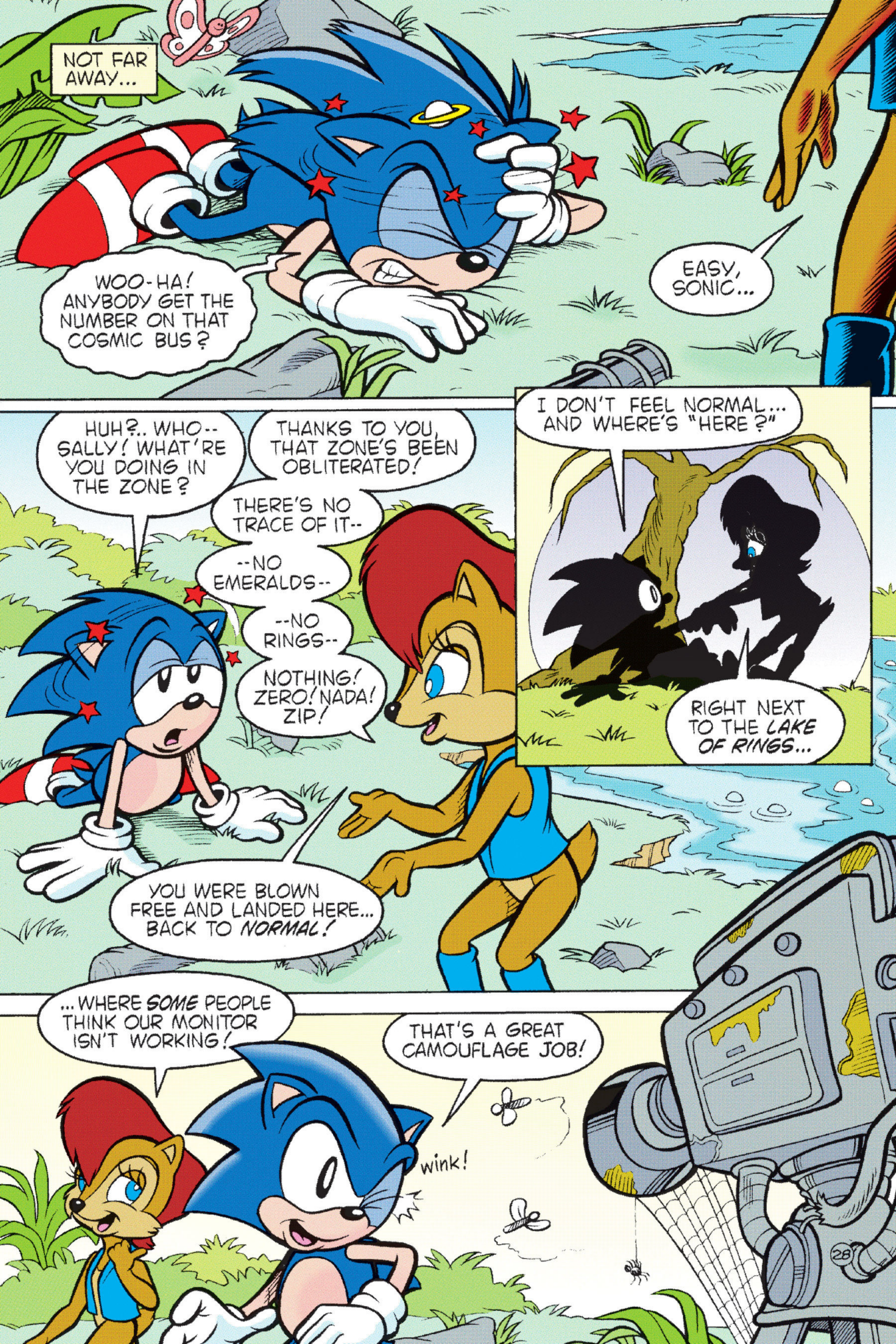

SUPER SONIC
VS
HYPER KNUCKLES™
CRASH OF THE TITANS
PART IV
2 PAGE PINUP!

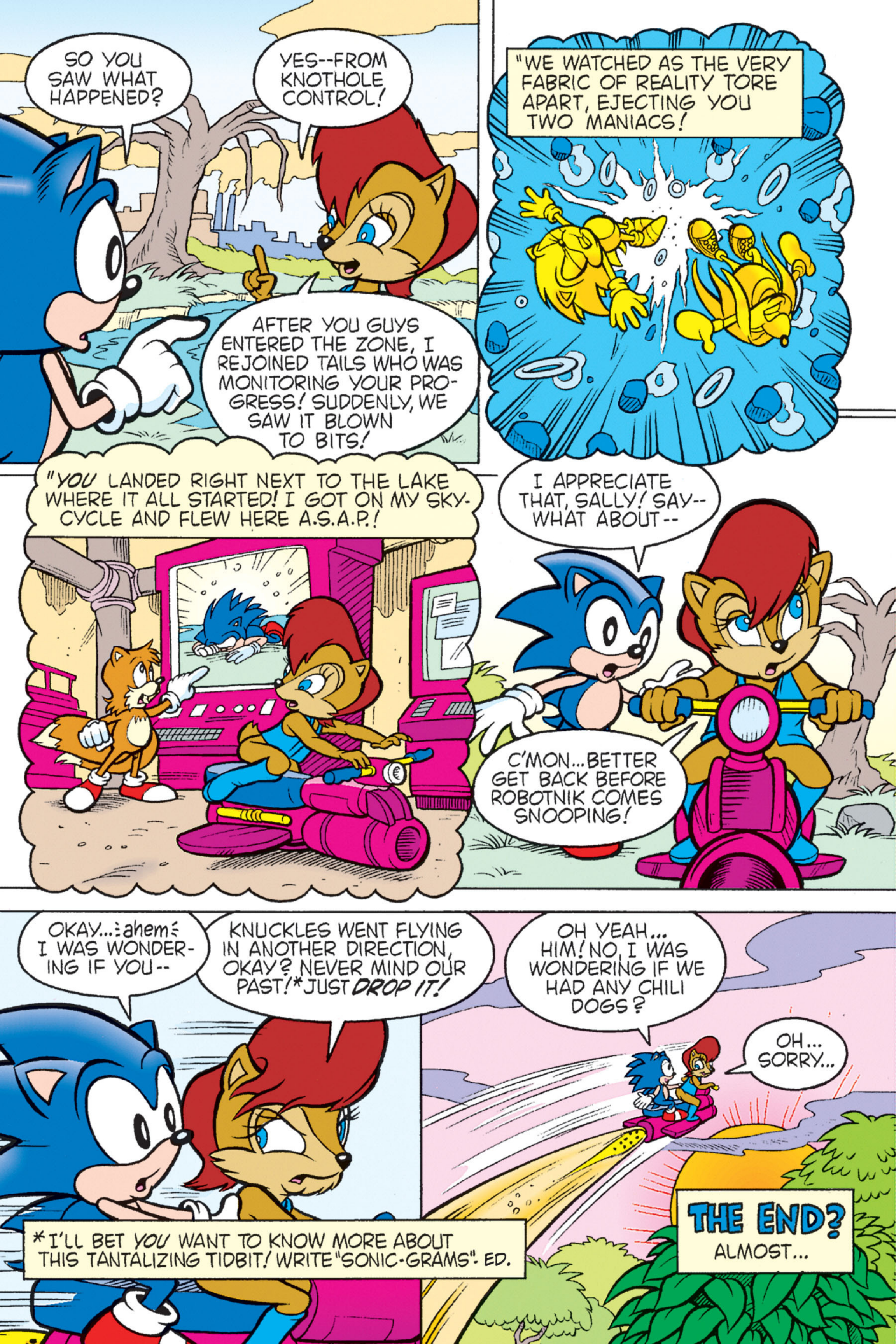

BAH! IS THAT ALL YOU'VE GOT? GET AWAY FROM ME WITH THAT *SUPER SPIN DASH!*
SHRING!
YOU CAN'T STOP ME THAT EASILY!
WZZZZ...
YOU'RE COMING IN COUNTER-CLOCKWISE... THAT'S UNWISE!
ZWWW..
AAGH! HE REVERSED ME!
ZANG!
BUT I CAN USE THE BACKWARD MOMENTUM TO ACHIEVE A SUPER FIGURE EIGHT!
WHURG!
BUKA!
NYOWM...

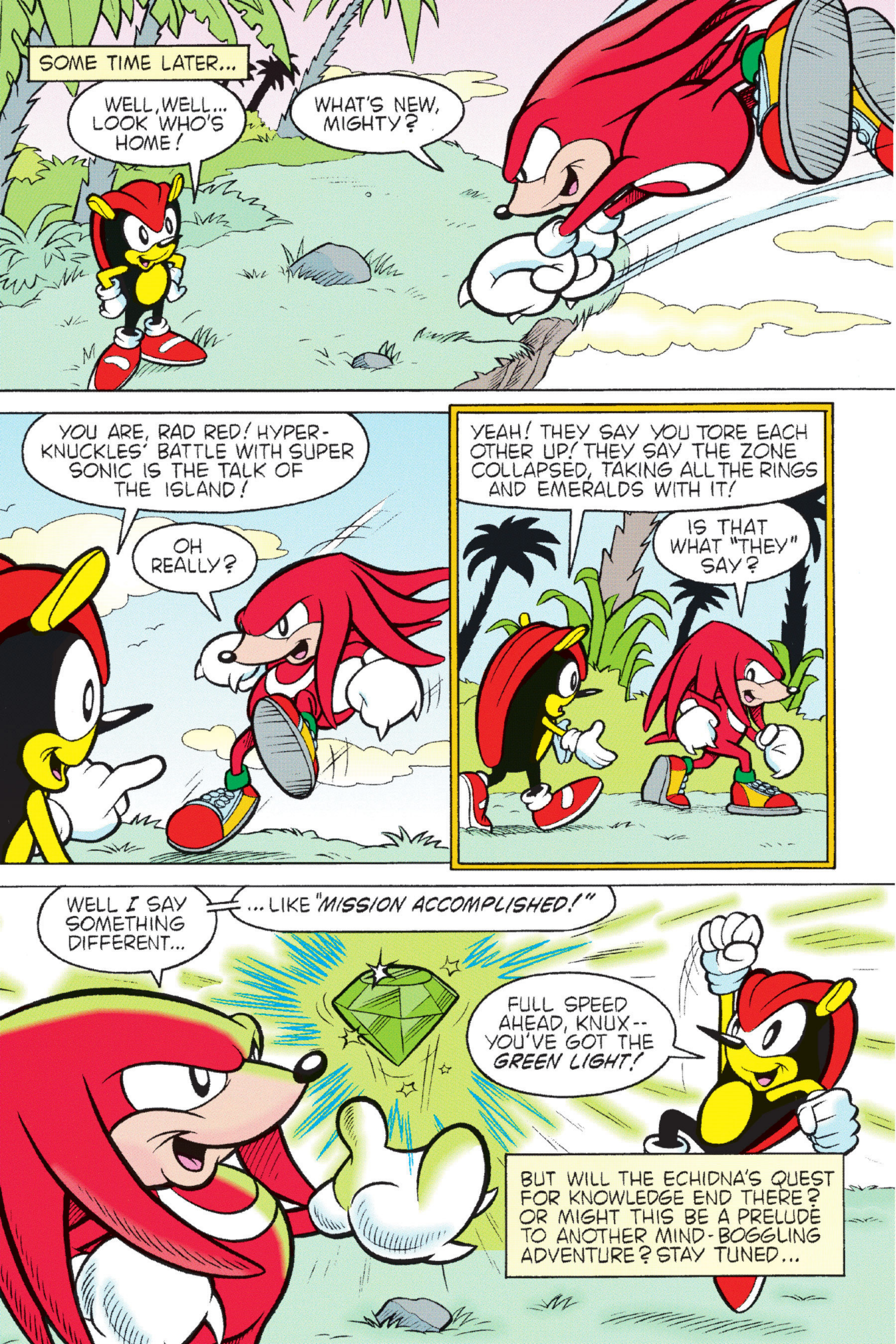

AND I CAN USE MY WHIRLING FISTS LIKE WHEELS... AND MY FEET LIKE *FEET!*
KLOP!
WFFF!
THAT DID IT! I'M OVER THE EDGE!!!
I'M ALREADY THERE! LET'S RUMBLE!
THE TWO COMBATANTS HURTLE TOWARD EACH OTHER AT INCALCULABLE SPEED...


UNIMAGINABLE RAW ENERGY ERUPTS, LITERALLY BENDING TIME AND SPACE!
THE WALLS CONTAINING THE ZONE'S REALITY BEGIN WARPING WILDLY!
THE ZONE CAN NO LONGER CONTAIN ITSELF--IT SWELLS--IT CRACKS...
IT EXPLODES!


NEARBY...
MY LORD OF LARD... IT IS AN EARTHQUAKE!
NO, IT'S SOMETHING QUITE DIFFERENT... OBSERVE!
ENERGY OUTPUT READINGS ARE OFF THE SCALE! DISPERSION OF CONTENTS IRRETRIEVABLE!
THIS IS TERRIBLE!
YOU MEAN BECAUSE OF THE POTENTIAL LOSS OF MAGIC RINGS AND CHAOS EMERALDS?
NO, I MEAN BECAUSE THIS IS A 48-PAGE SPECIAL, AND ALL I GET IS A ONE-PAGE CAMEO! SOMEONE IS GOING TO PAY DEARLY FOR THIS!
CRUNKLE!
GET MY AGENT ON THE PHONE!


NOT FAR AWAY...
WOO-HA! ANYBODY GET THE NUMBER ON THAT COSMIC BUS?
EASY, SONIC...
HUH?.. WHO-- SALLY! WHAT'RE YOU DOING IN THE ZONE?
THANKS TO YOU, THAT ZONE'S BEEN OBLITERATED!
THERE'S NO TRACE OF IT--
--NO EMERALDS--
--NO RINGS--
NOTHING! ZERO! NADA! ZIP!
YOU WERE BLOWN FREE AND LANDED HERE... BACK TO *NORMAL!*
I DON'T FEEL NORMAL... AND WHERE'S "HERE?"
RIGHT NEXT TO THE *LAKE OF RINGS...*
...WHERE *SOME* PEOPLE THINK OUR MONITOR ISN'T WORKING!
THAT'S A GREAT CAMOUFLAGE JOB!
wink!

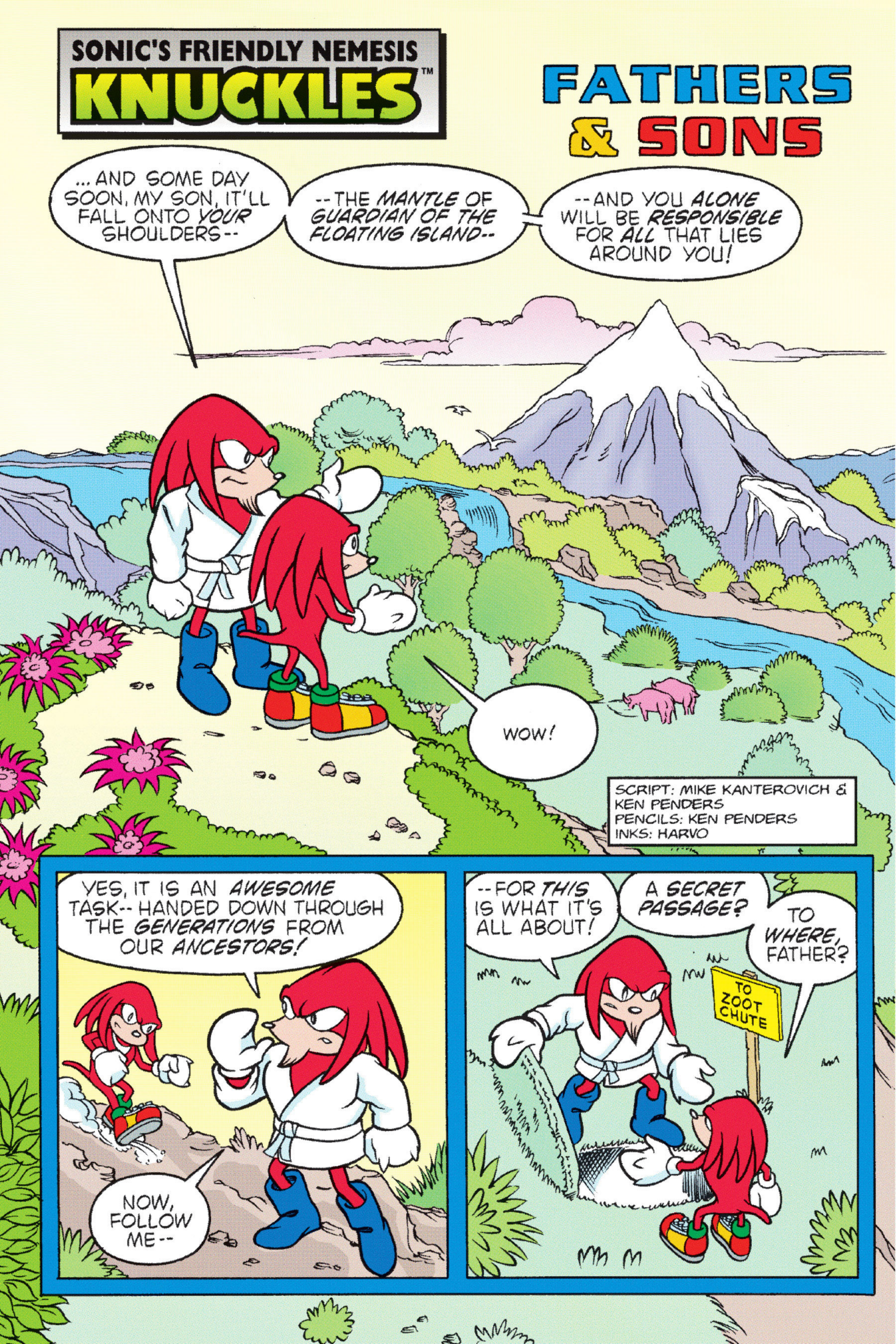

SO YOU SAW WHAT HAPPENED?
YES--FROM KNOTHOLE CONTROL!
AFTER YOU GUYS ENTERED THE ZONE, I REJOINED TAILS WHO WAS MONITORING YOUR PROGRESS! SUDDENLY, WE SAW IT BLOWN TO BITS!
"WE WATCHED AS THE VERY FABRIC OF REALITY TORE APART, EJECTING YOU TWO MANIACS!
"*YOU* LANDED RIGHT NEXT TO THE LAKE WHERE IT ALL STARTED! I GOT ON MY SKY-CYCLE AND FLEW HERE A.S.A.P.!
I APPRECIATE THAT, SALLY! SAY-- WHAT ABOUT--
C'MON...BETTER GET BACK BEFORE ROBOTNIK COMES SNOOPING!
OKAY...:ahem: I WAS WONDERING IF YOU--
KNUCKLES WENT FLYING IN ANOTHER DIRECTION, OKAY? NEVER MIND OUR PAST!* JUST *DROP IT!*
OH YEAH... HIM! NO, I WAS WONDERING IF WE HAD ANY CHILI DOGS?
OH... SORRY...
*I'LL BET *YOU* WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THIS TANTALIZING TIDBIT! WRITE "SONIC-GRAMS". ED.
THE END?
ALMOST...

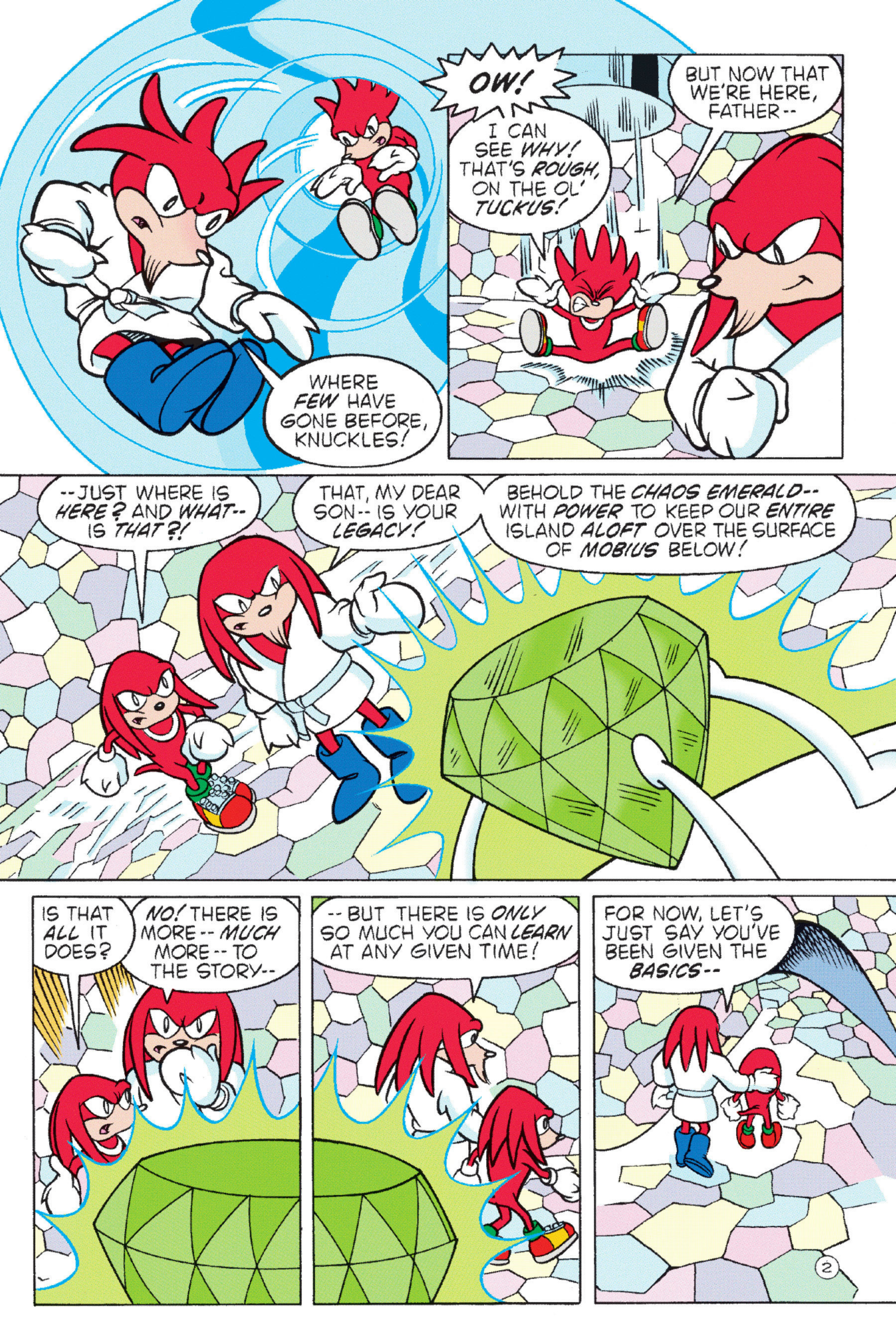

SOME TIME LATER...
WELL, WELL... LOOK WHO'S HOME!
WHAT'S NEW, MIGHTY?
YOU ARE, RAD RED! HYPER-KNUCKLES' BATTLE WITH SUPER SONIC IS THE TALK OF THE ISLAND!
OH REALLY?
YEAH! THEY SAY YOU TORE EACH OTHER UP! THEY SAY THE ZONE COLLAPSED, TAKING ALL THE RINGS AND EMERALDS WITH IT!
IS THAT WHAT "THEY" SAY?
WELL *I* SAY SOMETHING DIFFERENT...
...LIKE "*MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!*"
FULL SPEED AHEAD, KNUX-- YOU'VE GOT THE *GREEN LIGHT!*
BUT WILL THE ECHIDNA'S QUEST FOR KNOWLEDGE END THERE? OR MIGHT THIS BE A PRELUDE TO ANOTHER MIND-BOGGLING ADVENTURE? STAY TUNED...

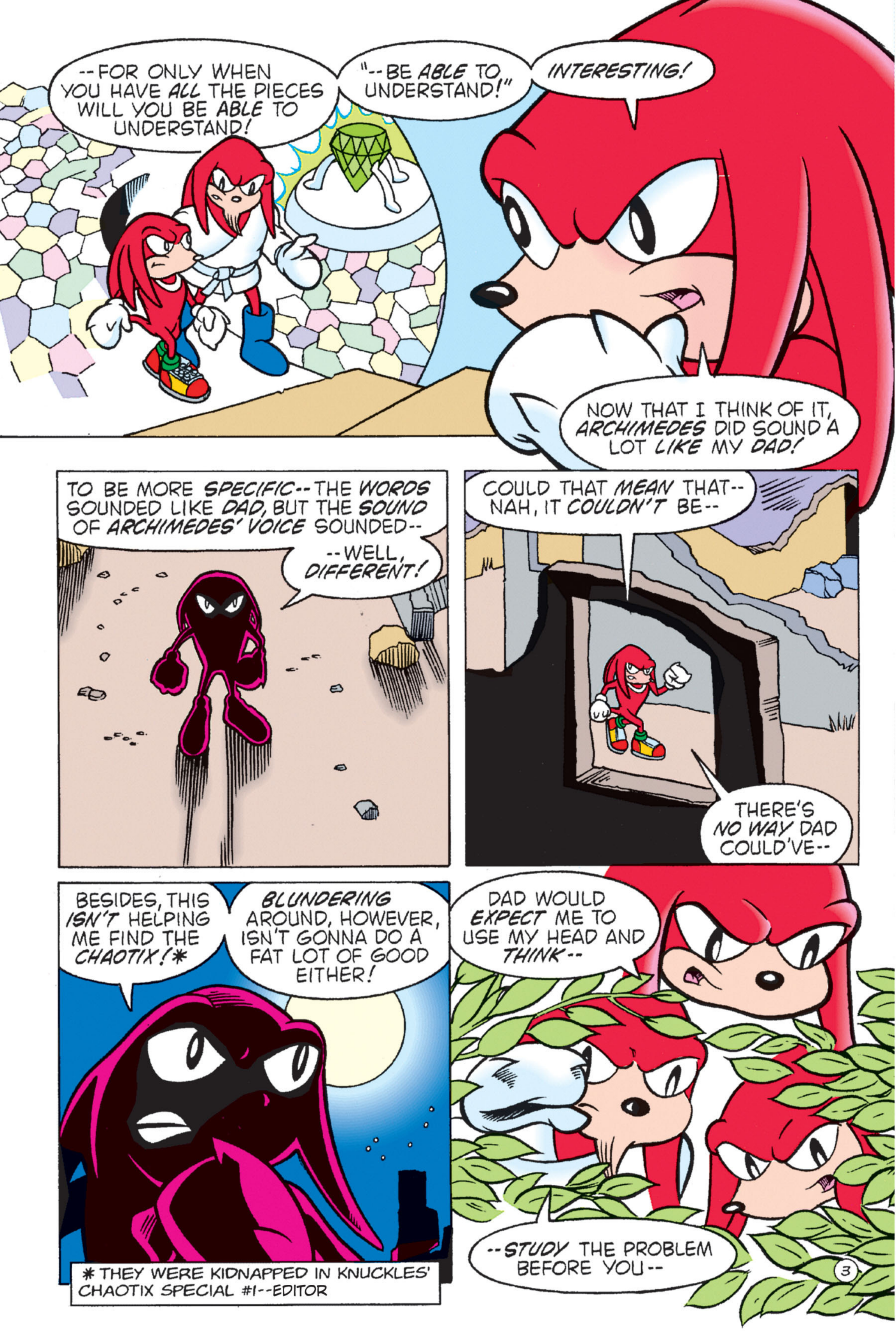
SONIC'S FRIENDLY NEMESIS
KNUCKLES™

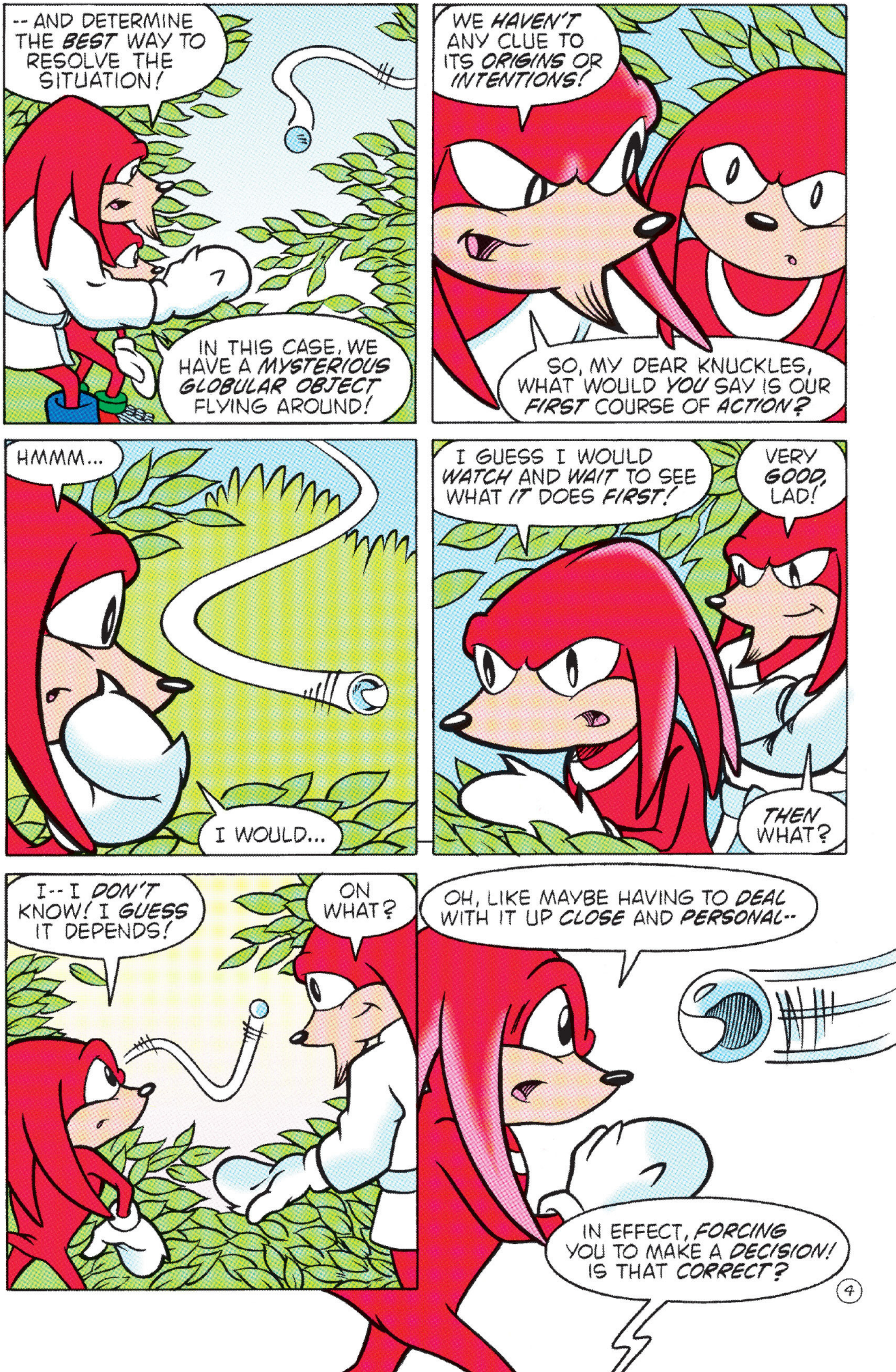
FATHERS & SONS

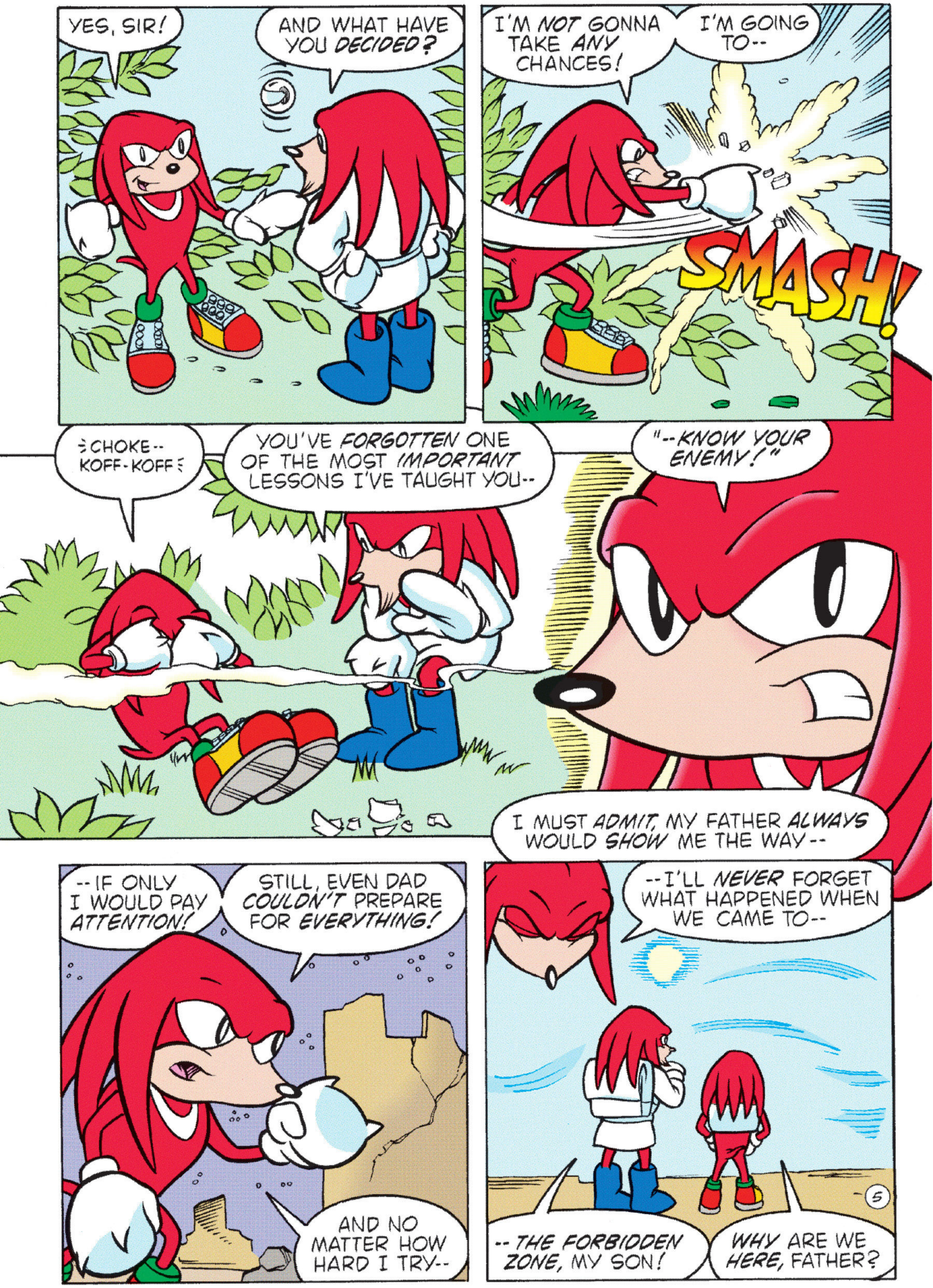
SCRIPT: MIKE KANTEROVICH & KEN PENDERS
PENCILS: KEN PENDERS
INKS: HARVO

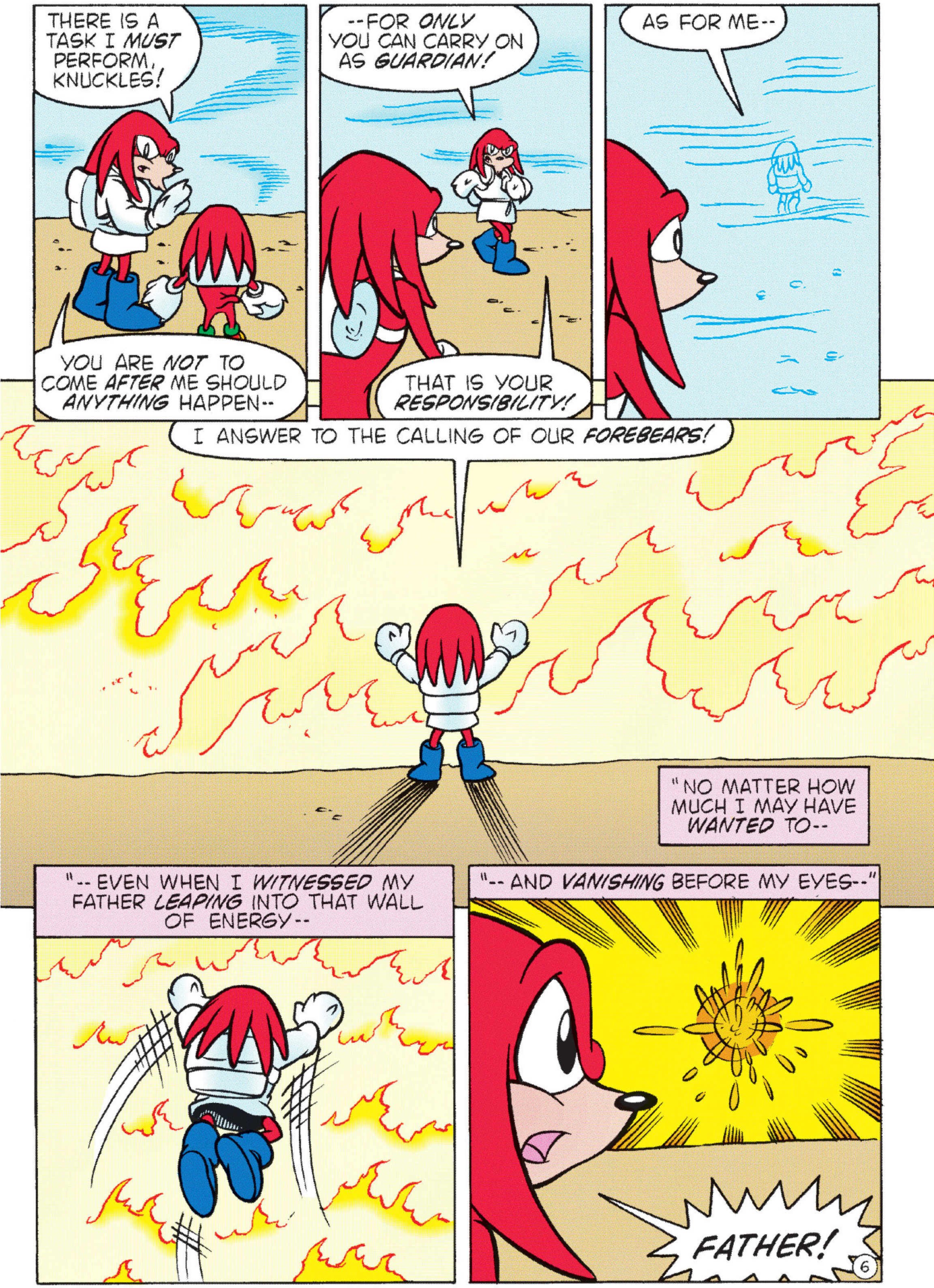

...AND SOME DAY SOON, MY SON, IT'LL FALL ONTO *YOUR* SHOULDERS--
--THE *MANTLE* OF *GUARDIAN OF THE FLOATING ISLAND*--
--AND YOU *ALONE* WILL BE *RESPONSIBLE* FOR *ALL* THAT LIES AROUND YOU!
WOW!
YES, IT IS AN *AWESOME* TASK-- HANDED DOWN THROUGH THE *GENERATIONS* FROM OUR *ANCESTORS!*
NOW, FOLLOW ME--
--FOR *THIS* IS WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT!
A *SECRET PASSAGE?*
TO *WHERE,* FATHER?
TO ZOOT CHUTE

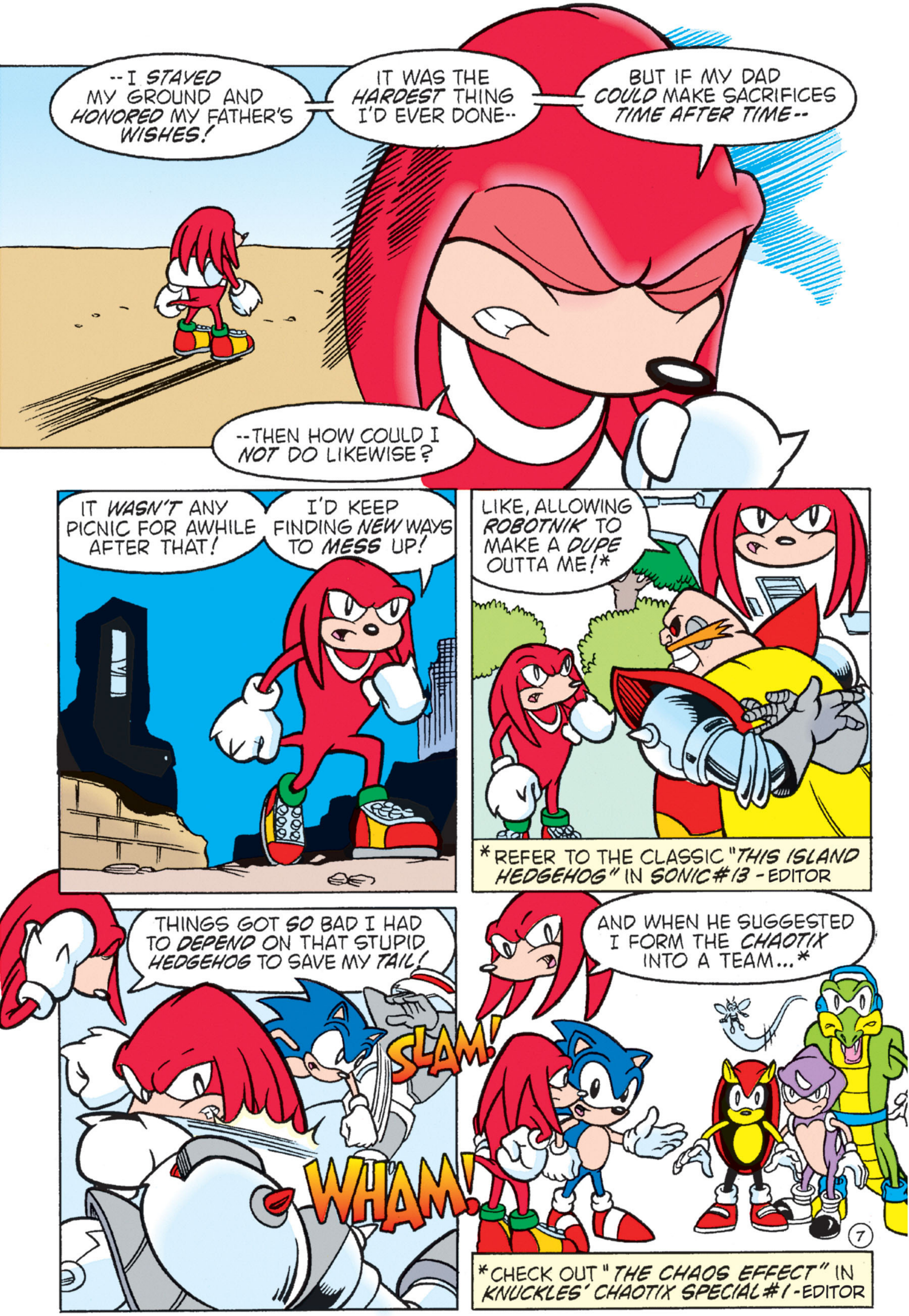

WHERE *FEW* HAVE GONE BEFORE, KNUCKLES!
OW!
I CAN SEE *WHY!* THAT'S *ROUGH,* ON THE OL' *TUCKUS!*
BUT NOW THAT WE'RE HERE, FATHER--
--JUST WHERE IS *HERE?* AND *WHAT*--IS *THAT?!*
THAT, MY DEAR SON--IS YOUR *LEGACY!*
BEHOLD THE *CHAOS EMERALD*--WITH *POWER* TO KEEP OUR *ENTIRE* ISLAND *ALOFT* OVER THE SURFACE OF *MOBIUS* BELOW!
IS THAT *ALL* IT DOES?
NO! THERE IS MORE--*MUCH* MORE--TO THE STORY--
--BUT THERE IS *ONLY* SO MUCH YOU CAN *LEARN* AT ANY GIVEN TIME!
FOR NOW, LET'S JUST SAY YOU'VE BEEN GIVEN THE *BASICS*--
②


--FOR ONLY WHEN YOU HAVE *ALL* THE PIECES WILL YOU BE *ABLE* TO UNDERSTAND!
"--BE *ABLE* TO UNDERSTAND!"
INTERESTING!
NOW THAT I THINK OF IT, *ARCHIMEDES* DID SOUND A LOT *LIKE* MY *DAD!*
TO BE MORE *SPECIFIC*--THE *WORDS* SOUNDED LIKE *DAD*, BUT THE *SOUND* OF *ARCHIMEDES' VOICE* SOUNDED--
--WELL, *DIFFERENT!*
COULD THAT *MEAN* THAT-- NAH, IT *COULDN'T* BE--
THERE'S *NO WAY* DAD COULD'VE--
BESIDES, THIS *ISN'T* HELPING ME FIND THE *CHAOTIX!*✱
BLUNDERING AROUND, HOWEVER, ISN'T GONNA DO A FAT LOT OF GOOD EITHER!
DAD WOULD *EXPECT* ME TO USE MY HEAD AND *THINK*--
--*STUDY* THE PROBLEM BEFORE YOU--
✱THEY WERE KIDNAPPED IN KNUCKLES' CHAOTIX SPECIAL #1--EDITOR


-- AND DETERMINE THE *BEST* WAY TO RESOLVE THE SITUATION!
IN THIS CASE, WE HAVE A *MYSTERIOUS GLOBULAR OBJECT* FLYING AROUND!
WE *HAVEN'T* ANY CLUE TO ITS *ORIGINS* OR *INTENTIONS!*
SO, MY DEAR KNUCKLES, WHAT WOULD *YOU* SAY IS OUR *FIRST* COURSE OF *ACTION?*
HMMM...
I WOULD...
I GUESS I WOULD *WATCH* AND *WAIT* TO SEE WHAT *IT* DOES *FIRST!*
VERY *GOOD,* LAD!
THEN WHAT?
I-- I *DON'T* KNOW! I *GUESS* IT DEPENDS!
ON WHAT?
OH, LIKE MAYBE HAVING TO *DEAL* WITH IT UP *CLOSE* AND *PERSONAL*--
IN EFFECT, *FORCING* YOU TO MAKE A *DECISION!* IS THAT *CORRECT?*

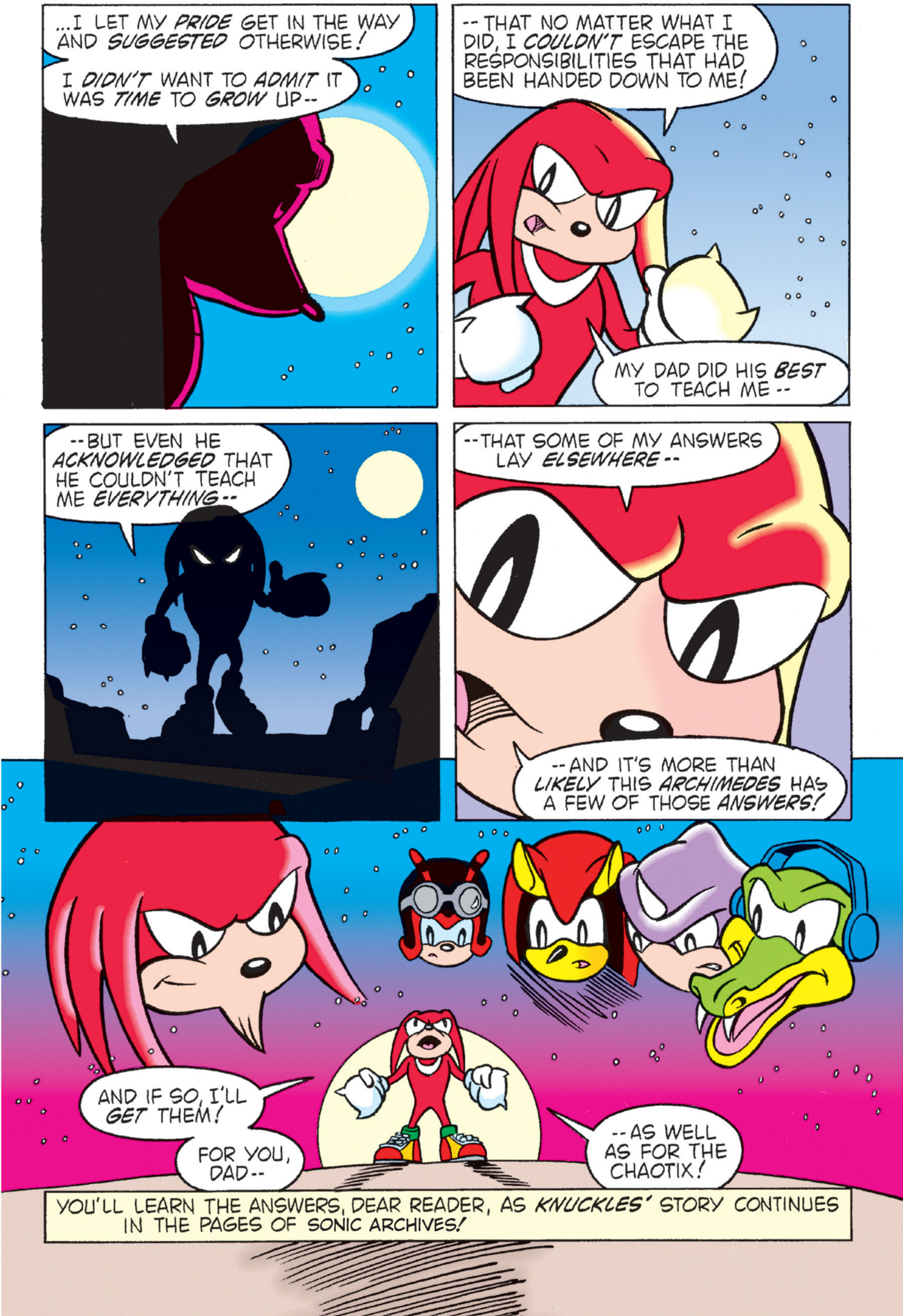

YES, SIR!
AND WHAT HAVE YOU *DECIDED?*
I'M *NOT* GONNA TAKE *ANY* CHANCES!
I'M GOING TO--
SMASH!
⁝CHOKE-- KOFF-KOFF⁝
YOU'VE *FORGOTTEN* ONE OF THE MOST *IMPORTANT* LESSONS I'VE TAUGHT YOU--
"--*KNOW YOUR ENEMY!*"
I MUST *ADMIT,* MY FATHER *ALWAYS* WOULD *SHOW* ME THE WAY--
--IF ONLY I WOULD PAY *ATTENTION!*
STILL, EVEN DAD *COULDN'T* PREPARE FOR *EVERYTHING!*
AND NO MATTER HOW HARD I TRY--
--I'LL *NEVER* FORGET WHAT HAPPENED WHEN WE CAME TO--
--*THE FORBIDDEN ZONE,* MY SON!
WHY ARE WE *HERE,* FATHER?


THERE IS A TASK I *MUST* PERFORM, KNUCKLES!
YOU ARE *NOT* TO COME *AFTER* ME SHOULD *ANYTHING* HAPPEN--
--FOR *ONLY* YOU CAN CARRY ON AS *GUARDIAN!*
THAT IS YOUR *RESPONSIBILITY!*
AS FOR ME--
I ANSWER TO THE CALLING OF OUR *FOREBEARS!*
"NO MATTER HOW MUCH I MAY HAVE *WANTED* TO--
"-- EVEN WHEN I *WITNESSED* MY FATHER *LEAPING* INTO THAT WALL OF ENERGY--
"-- AND *VANISHING* BEFORE MY EYES--"
FATHER!


--I *STAYED* MY GROUND AND *HONORED* MY FATHER'S *WISHES!*
IT WAS THE *HARDEST* THING I'D EVER DONE--
BUT IF MY DAD *COULD* MAKE SACRIFICES *TIME AFTER TIME*--
--THEN HOW COULD I *NOT* DO LIKEWISE?
IT *WASN'T* ANY PICNIC FOR AWHILE AFTER THAT!
I'D KEEP FINDING *NEW* WAYS TO *MESS* UP!
LIKE, ALLOWING *ROBOTNIK* TO MAKE A *DUPE* OUTTA ME!*
THINGS GOT *SO* BAD I HAD TO *DEPEND* ON THAT STUPID *HEDGEHOG* TO SAVE MY *TAIL!*
SLAM!
WHAM!
AND WHEN HE SUGGESTED I FORM THE *CHAOTIX* INTO A TEAM...*

*REFER TO THE CLASSIC "*THIS ISLAND HEDGEHOG*" IN *SONIC #13* - EDITOR

*CHECK OUT "*THE CHAOS EFFECT*" IN *KNUCKLES' CHAOTIX SPECIAL #1* - EDITOR


...I LET MY *PRIDE* GET IN THE WAY AND *SUGGESTED* OTHERWISE!
I *DIDN'T* WANT TO *ADMIT* IT WAS *TIME* TO *GROW* UP--
--THAT NO MATTER WHAT I DID, I *COULDN'T* ESCAPE THE RESPONSIBILITIES THAT HAD BEEN HANDED DOWN TO ME!
MY DAD DID HIS *BEST* TO TEACH ME --
--BUT EVEN HE *ACKNOWLEDGED* THAT HE COULDN'T TEACH ME *EVERYTHING*--
--THAT SOME OF MY ANSWERS LAY *ELSEWHERE*--
--AND IT'S MORE THAN *LIKELY* THIS *ARCHIMEDES* HAS A FEW OF THOSE *ANSWERS!*
AND IF SO, I'LL *GET* THEM!
FOR YOU, DAD--
--AS WELL AS FOR THE CHAOTIX!
YOU'LL LEARN THE ANSWERS, DEAR READER, AS *KNUCKLES'* STORY CONTINUES IN THE PAGES OF SONIC ARCHIVES!

SUPER SONIC VS. HYPER KNUCKLES™

IN THIS ISSUE:

"CRASH OF THE TITANS"
Script: ***Mike Gallagher***
Penciling: ***Art Mawhinney***
Inking: ***Rich Koslowski***

"FATHERS & SONS"
Script: ***Mike Kanterovich & Ken Penders***
Penciling: ***Ken Penders***
Inking: ***Harvo***

Lettering: ***Mindy Eisman***

Coloring: ***Barry Grossman***

Cover and Table of Contents Art: ***Patrick Spaziante***

Cover Inking: ***Harvo***

Cover Colors: ***Heroic Age Colors***

Editor: ***Scott Fulop***

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Editor-In-Chief: ***Richard Goldwater***

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HARO

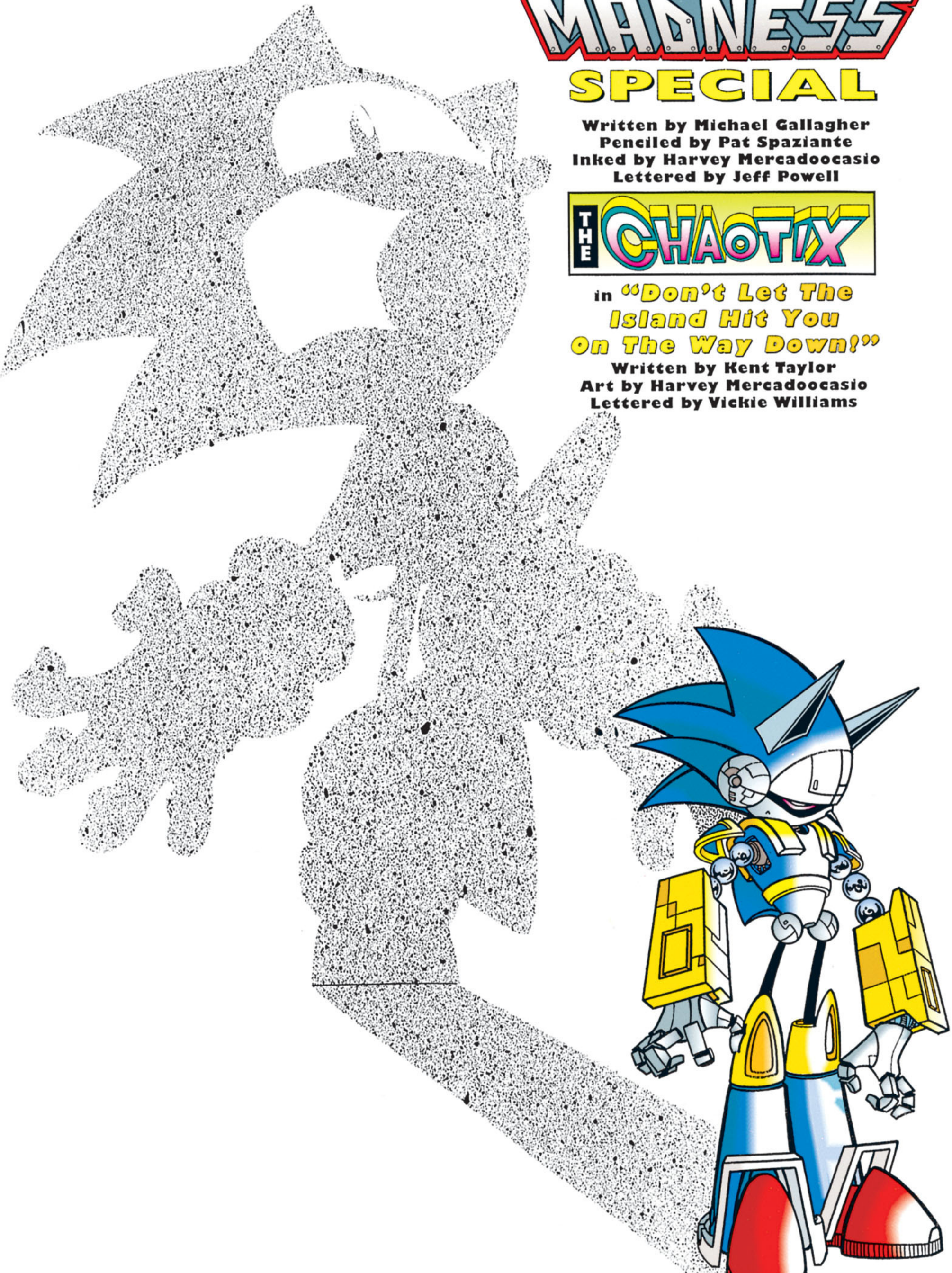
SONIC & KNUCKLES™:
MECHA MADNESS
SPECIAL

Written by Michael Gallagher
Penciled by Pat Spaziante
Inked by Harvey Mercadoocasio
Lettered by Jeff Powell

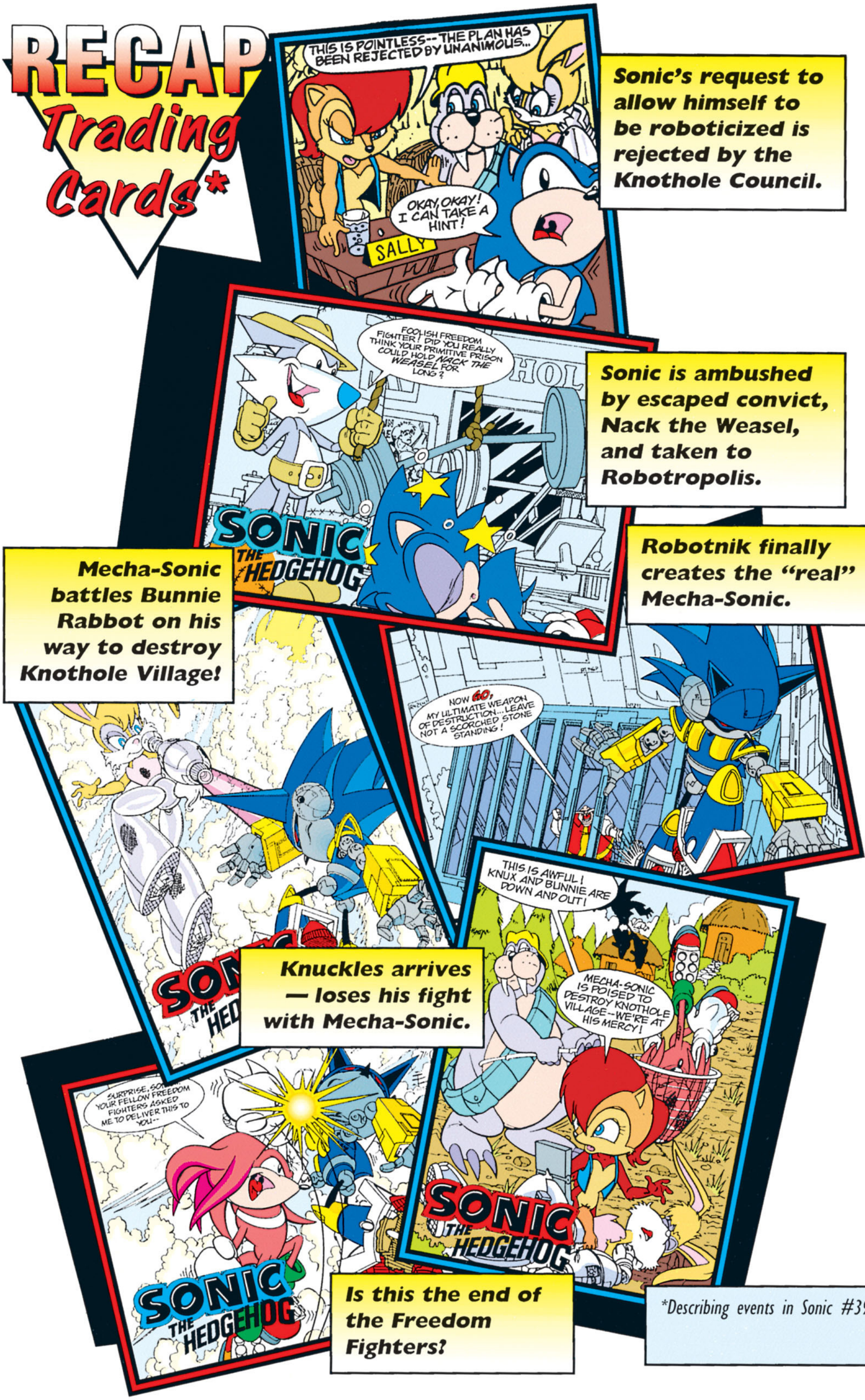
THE CHAOTIX

in *"Don't Let The Island Hit You On The Way Down!"*

Written by Kent Taylor
Art by Harvey Mercadoocasio
Lettered by Vickie Williams



RECAP
Trading Cards*


THIS IS POINTLESS-- THE PLAN HAS BEEN REJECTED BY UNANIMOUS...
OKAY, OKAY! I CAN TAKE A HINT!
SALLY
FOOLISH FREEDOM FIGHTER! DID YOU REALLY THINK YOUR PRIMITIVE PRISON COULD HOLD NACK THE WEASEL FOR LONG?
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
NOW GO, MY ULTIMATE WEAPON OF DESTRUCTION... LEAVE NOT A SCORCHED STONE STANDING!
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
THIS IS AWFUL! KNUX AND BUNNIE ARE DOWN AND OUT!
MECHA-SONIC IS POISED TO DESTROY KNOTHOLE VILLAGE--WE'RE AT HIS MERCY!
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
SURPRISE, SONIC! YOUR FELLOW FREEDOM FIGHTERS ASKED ME TO DELIVER THIS TO YOU--
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG

Sonic's request to allow himself to be roboticized is rejected by the Knothole Council.

Sonic is ambushed by escaped convict, Nack the Weasel, and taken to Robotropolis.

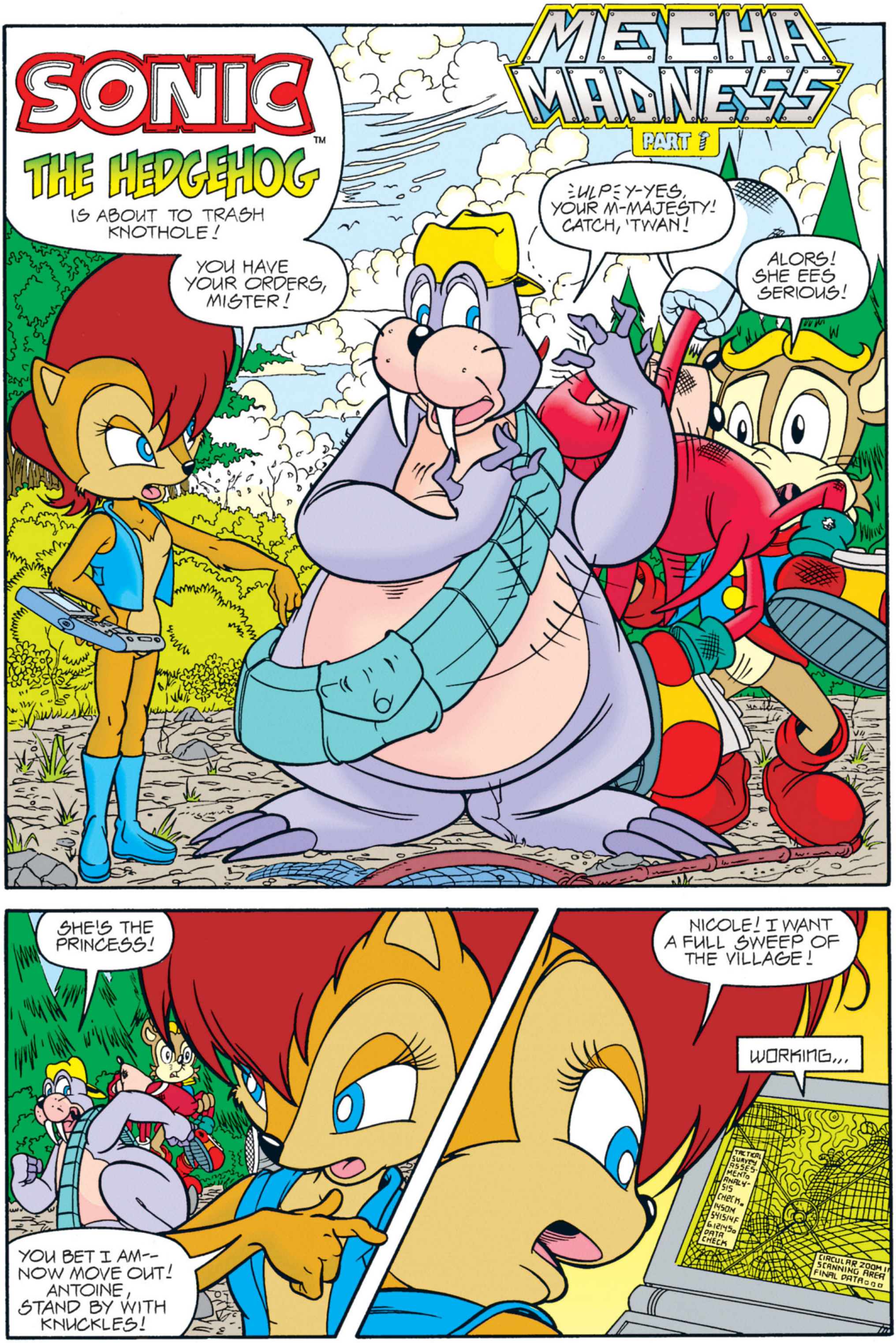
Robotnik finally creates the "real" Mecha-Sonic.

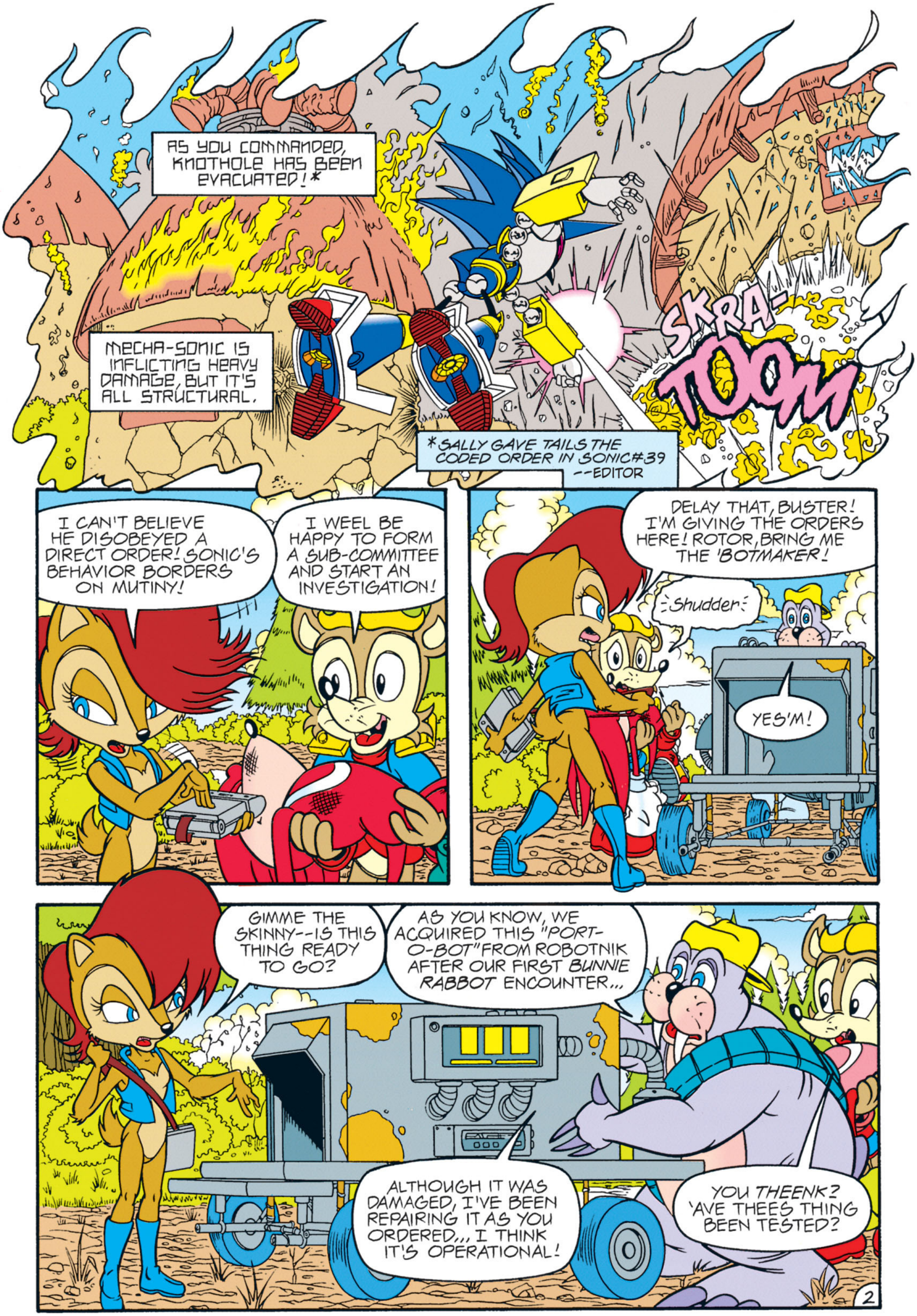
Mecha-Sonic battles Bunnie Rabbot on his way to destroy Knothole Village!

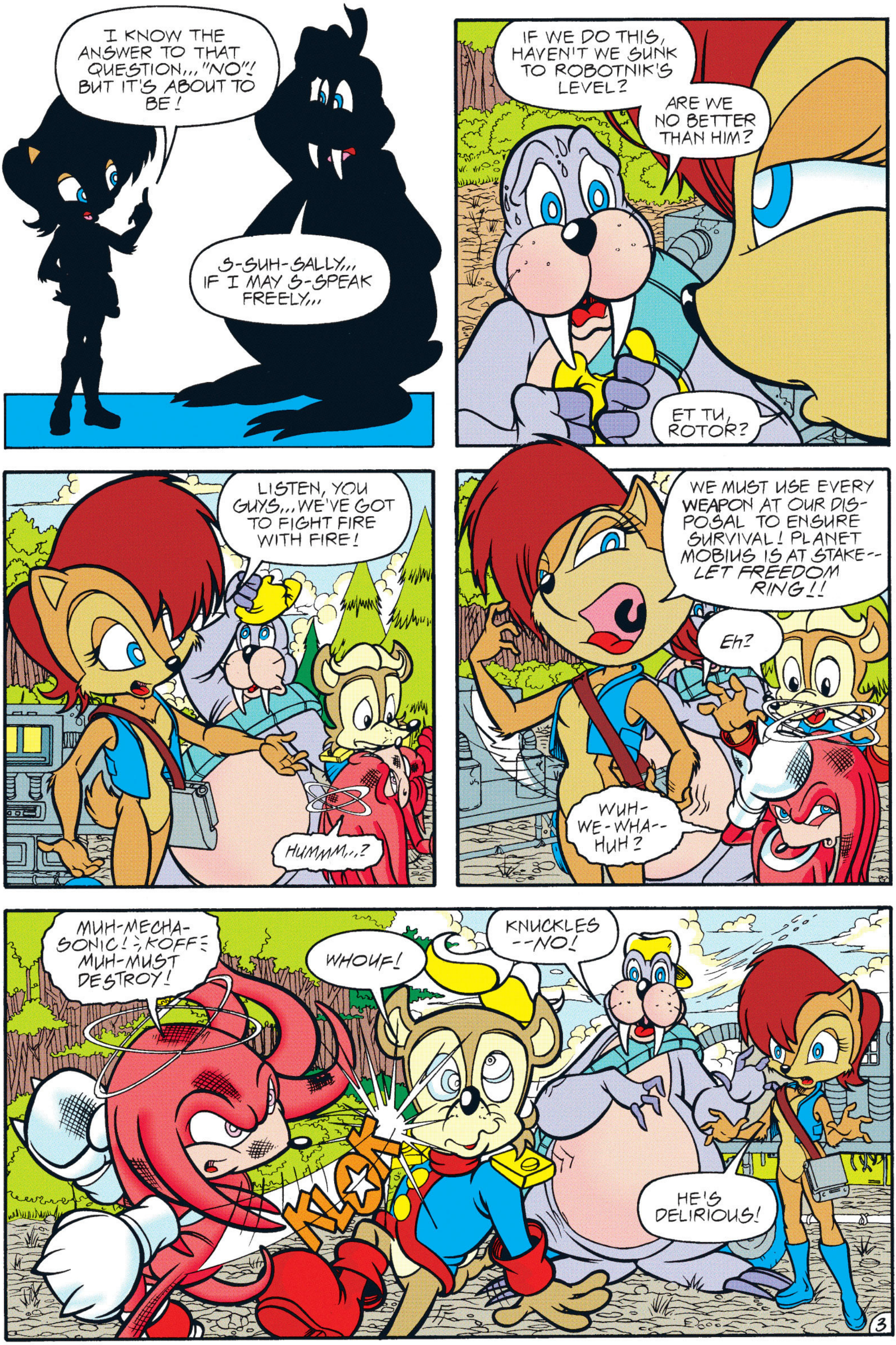
Knuckles arrives — loses his fight with Mecha-Sonic.

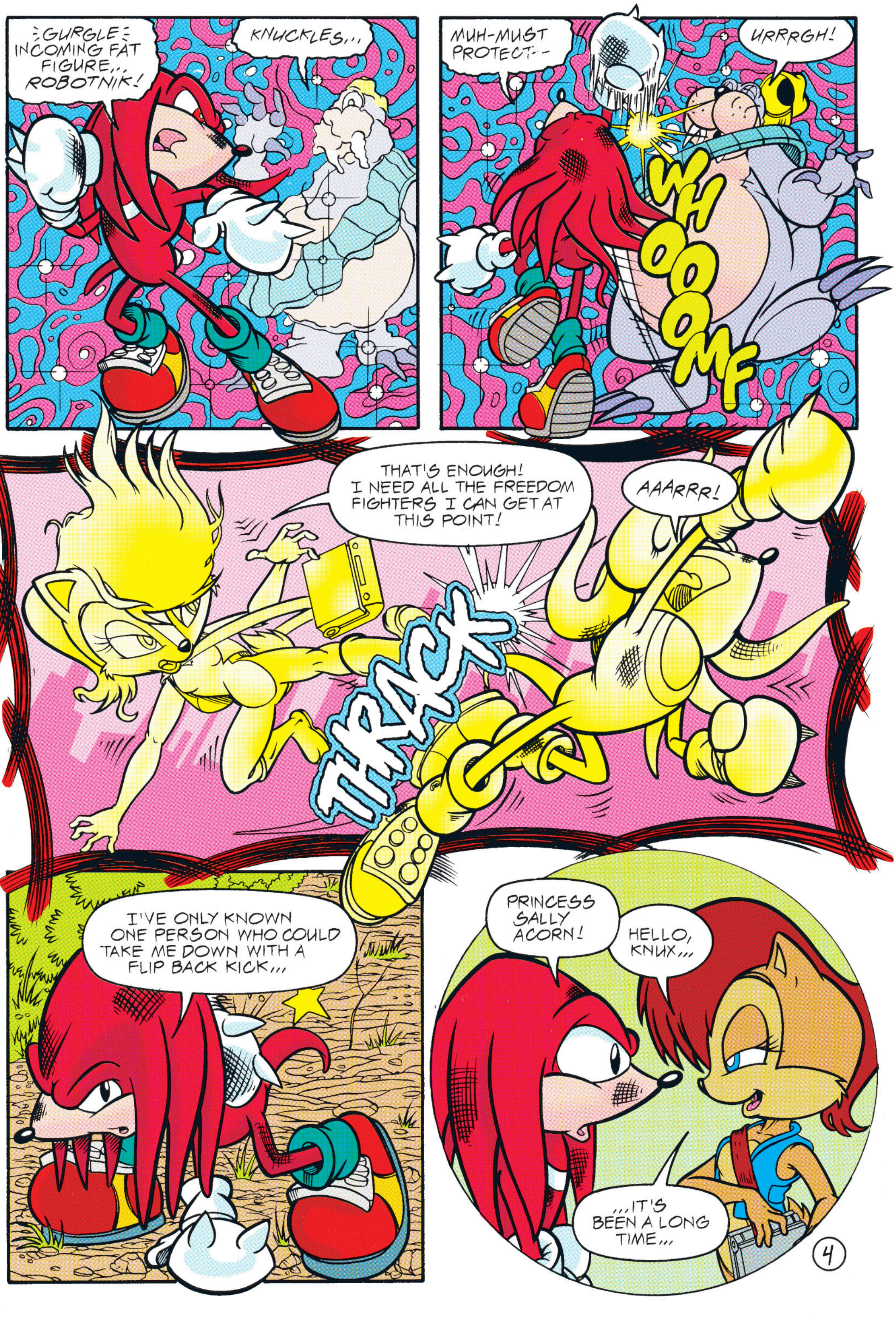
Is this the end of the Freedom Fighters?

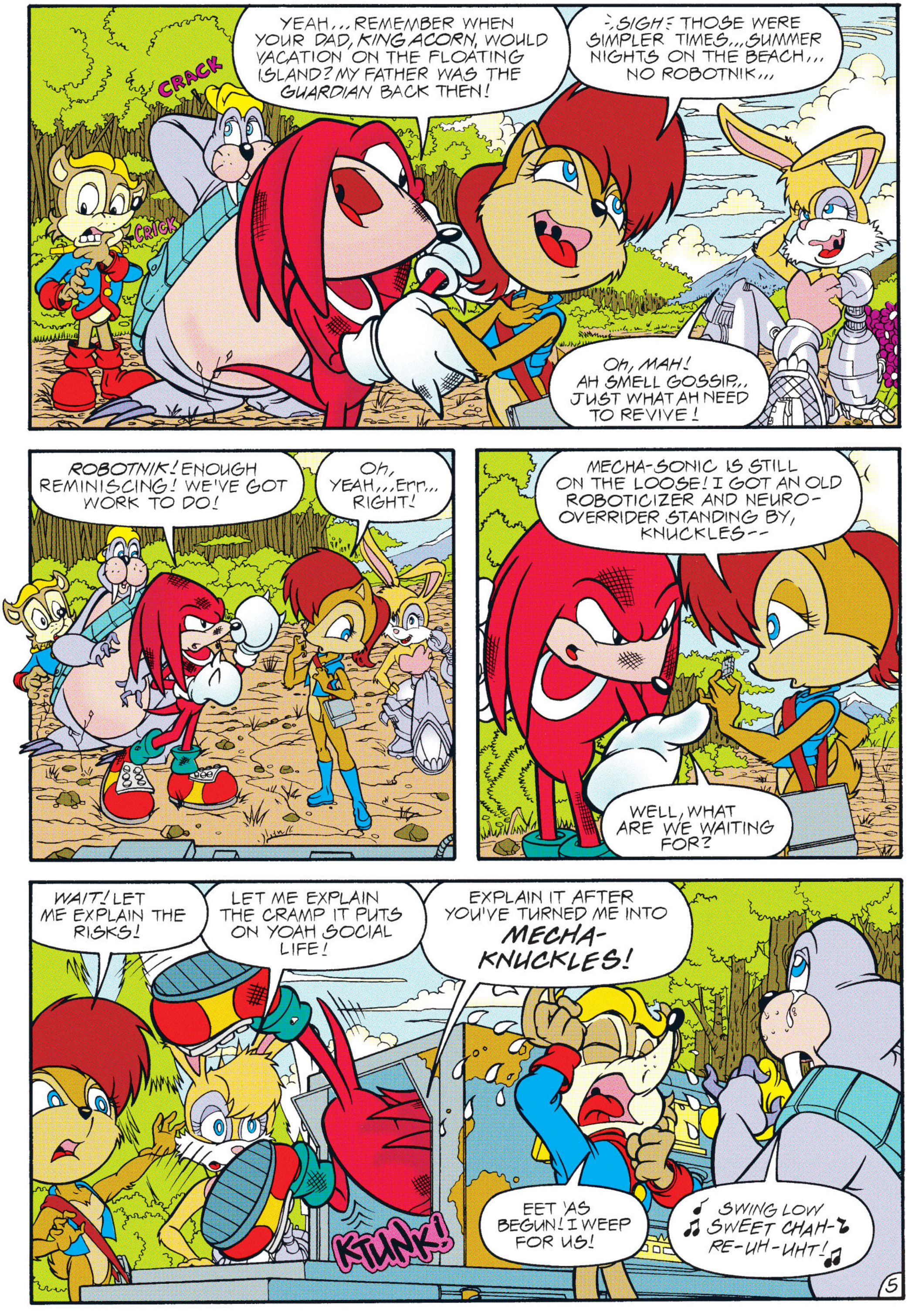
*Describing events in Sonic #39

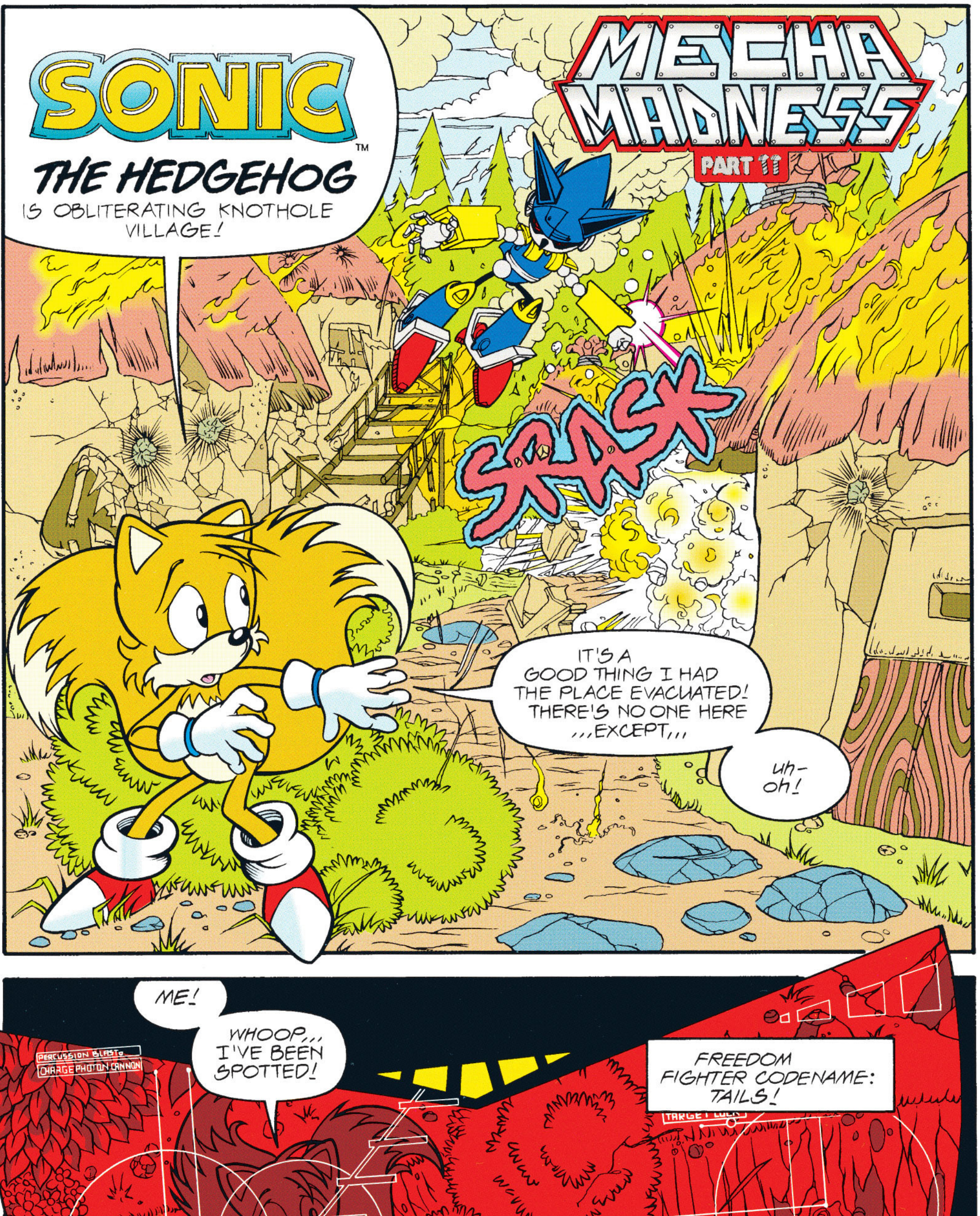
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG™
IS ABOUT TO TRASH KNOTHOLE!
MECHA MADNESS
PART 1
YOU HAVE YOUR ORDERS, MISTER!
GULP! Y-YES, YOUR M-MAJESTY! CATCH, 'TWAN!
ALORS! SHE EES SERIOUS!
SHE'S THE PRINCESS!
YOU BET I AM-- NOW MOVE OUT! ANTOINE, STAND BY WITH KNUCKLES!
NICOLE! I WANT A FULL SWEEP OF THE VILLAGE!
WORKING...
TACTICAL SURVEY ASSES-MENT. ANALY-SIS CHECK. 1450N 5415/4F 6.12145. DATA CHECK
CIRCULAR ZOOM I
SCANNING AREA
FINAL DATA...

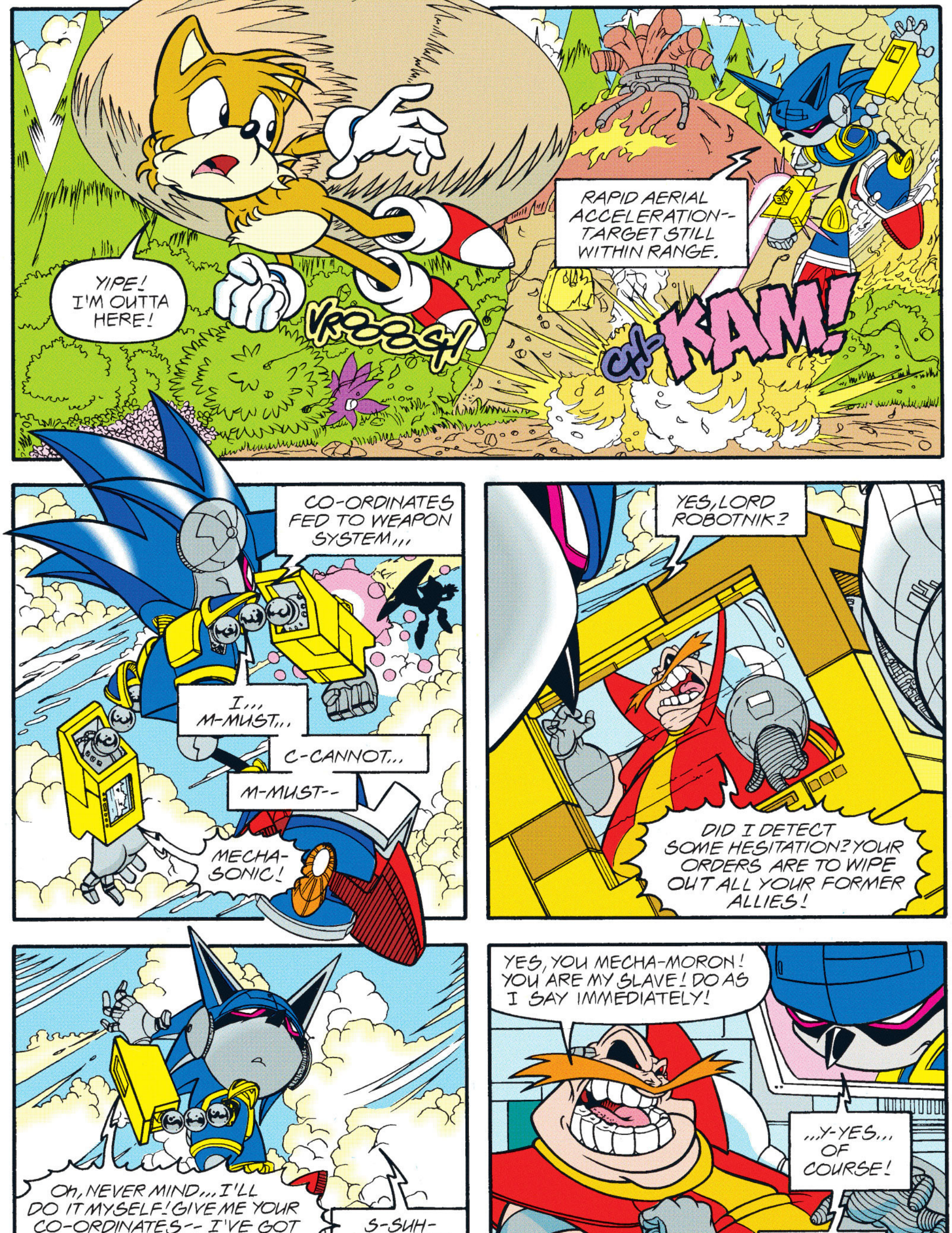

AS YOU COMMANDED, KNOTHOLE HAS BEEN EVACUATED! *
MECHA-SONIC IS INFLICTING HEAVY DAMAGE, BUT IT'S ALL STRUCTURAL.
SKRA-TOOM
*SALLY GAVE TAILS THE CODED ORDER IN SONIC#39 --EDITOR
I CAN'T BELIEVE HE DISOBEYED A DIRECT ORDER! SONIC'S BEHAVIOR BORDERS ON MUTINY!
I WEEL BE HAPPY TO FORM A SUB-COMMITTEE AND START AN INVESTIGATION!
DELAY THAT, BUSTER! I'M GIVING THE ORDERS HERE! ROTOR, BRING ME THE 'BOTMAKER!
Shudder
YES'M!
GIMME THE SKINNY--IS THIS THING READY TO GO?
AS YOU KNOW, WE ACQUIRED THIS "PORT-O-BOT" FROM ROBOTNIK AFTER OUR FIRST BUNNIE RABBOT ENCOUNTER...
ALTHOUGH IT WAS DAMAGED, I'VE BEEN REPAIRING IT AS YOU ORDERED... I THINK IT'S OPERATIONAL!
YOU THEENK? 'AVE THEES THING BEEN TESTED?

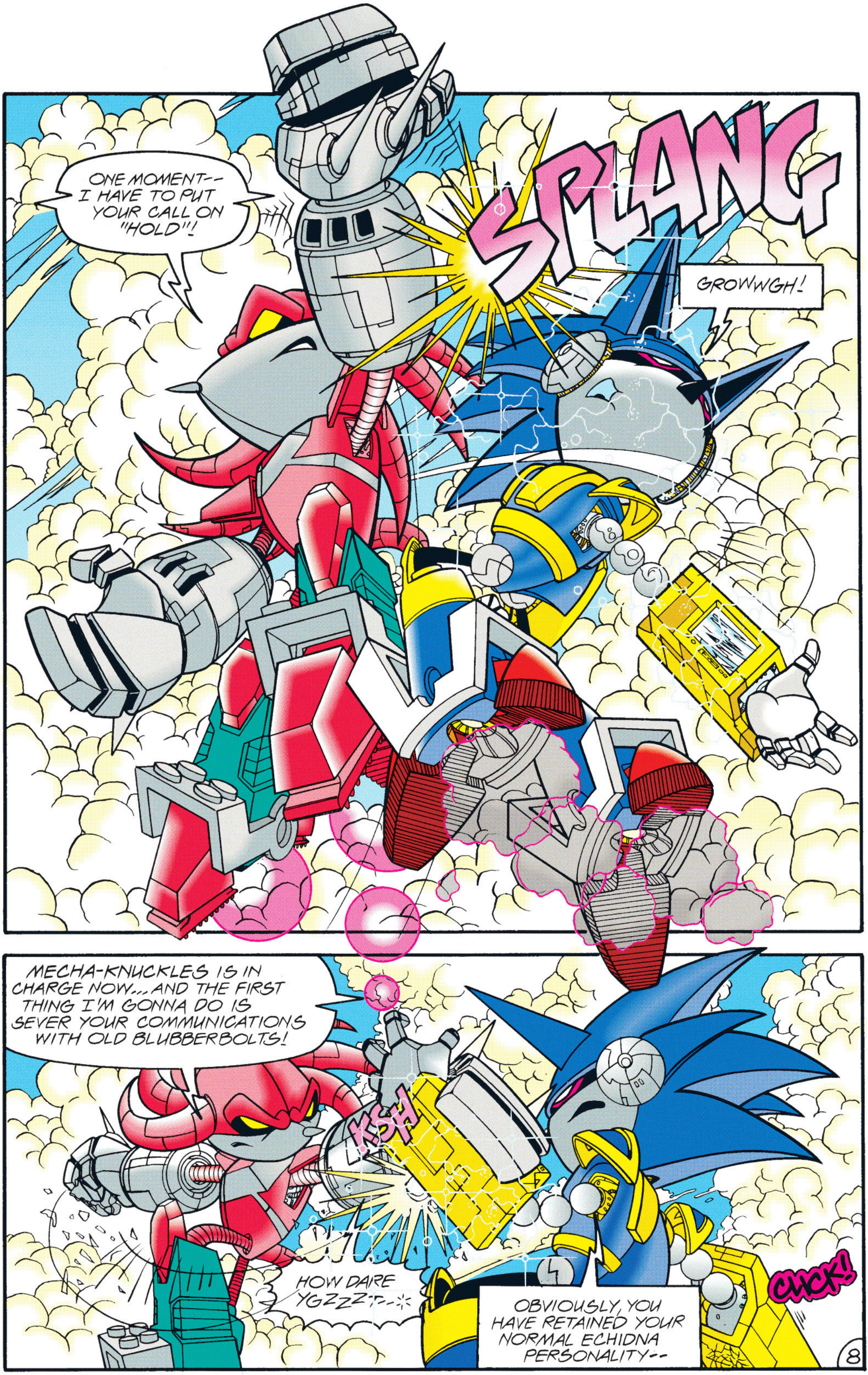

I KNOW THE ANSWER TO THAT QUESTION... "NO"! BUT IT'S ABOUT TO BE!
S-SUH-SALLY... IF I MAY S-SPEAK FREELY...
IF WE DO THIS, HAVEN'T WE SUNK TO ROBOTNIK'S LEVEL?
ARE WE NO BETTER THAN HIM?
ET TU, ROTOR?
LISTEN, YOU GUYS... WE'VE GOT TO FIGHT FIRE WITH FIRE!
HUMMM...?
WE MUST USE EVERY WEAPON AT OUR DISPOSAL TO ENSURE SURVIVAL! PLANET MOBIUS IS AT STAKE-- LET FREEDOM RING!!
Eh?
WUH-WE-WHA--HUH?
MUH-MECHA-SONIC! -KOFF- MUH-MUST DESTROY!
WHOUF!
KNUCKLES --NO!
KLOK
HE'S DELIRIOUS!

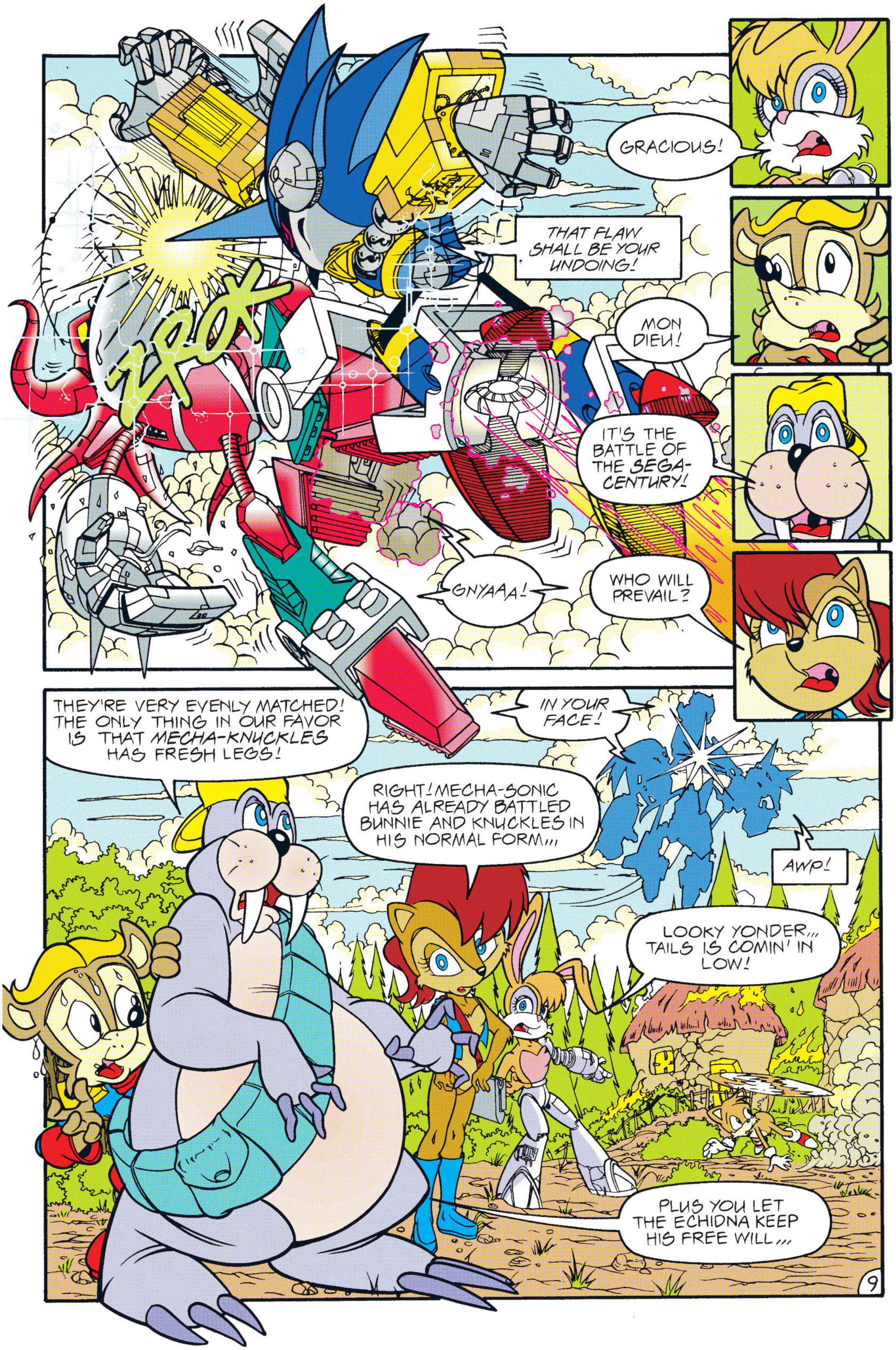

:GURGLE: INCOMING FAT FIGURE,.. ROBOTNIK!
KNUCKLES,..
MUH-MUST PROTECT--
URRRGH!
WHOOOOMF
THAT'S ENOUGH! I NEED ALL THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS I CAN GET AT THIS POINT!
AAARRR!
THRACK
I'VE ONLY KNOWN ONE PERSON WHO COULD TAKE ME DOWN WITH A FLIP BACK KICK,..
PRINCESS SALLY ACORN!
HELLO, KNUX,..
,..IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME,..

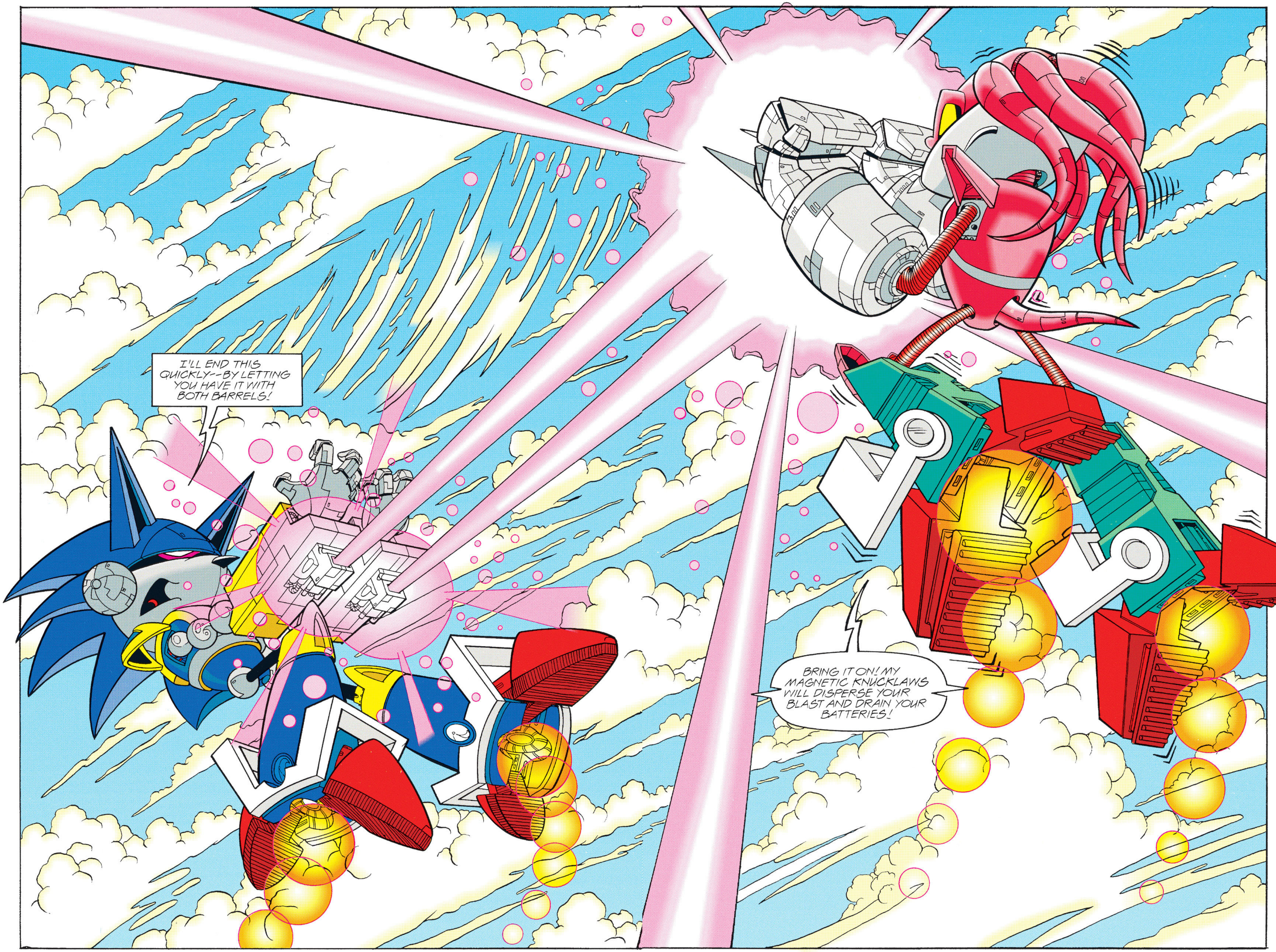

CRACK
CRICK
YEAH... REMEMBER WHEN YOUR DAD, *KING ACORN*, WOULD VACATION ON THE FLOATING ISLAND? MY FATHER WAS THE *GUARDIAN* BACK THEN!
SIGH THOSE WERE SIMPLER TIMES... SUMMER NIGHTS ON THE BEACH... NO ROBOTNIK...
Oh, MAH! AH SMELL GOSSIP... JUST WHAT AH NEED TO REVIVE!
ROBOTNIK! ENOUGH REMINISCING! WE'VE GOT WORK TO DO!
Oh, YEAH... Err... RIGHT!
MECHA-SONIC IS STILL ON THE LOOSE! I GOT AN OLD ROBOTICIZER AND NEURO-OVERRIDER STANDING BY, KNUCKLES--
WELL, WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR?
WAIT! LET ME EXPLAIN THE RISKS!
LET ME EXPLAIN THE CRAMP IT PUTS ON YOAH SOCIAL LIFE!
EXPLAIN IT AFTER YOU'VE TURNED ME INTO ***MECHA-KNUCKLES!***
KTUNK!
EET 'AS BEGUN! I WEEP FOR US!
♩ *SWING LOW SWEET CHAH-RE-UH-UHT!* ♫

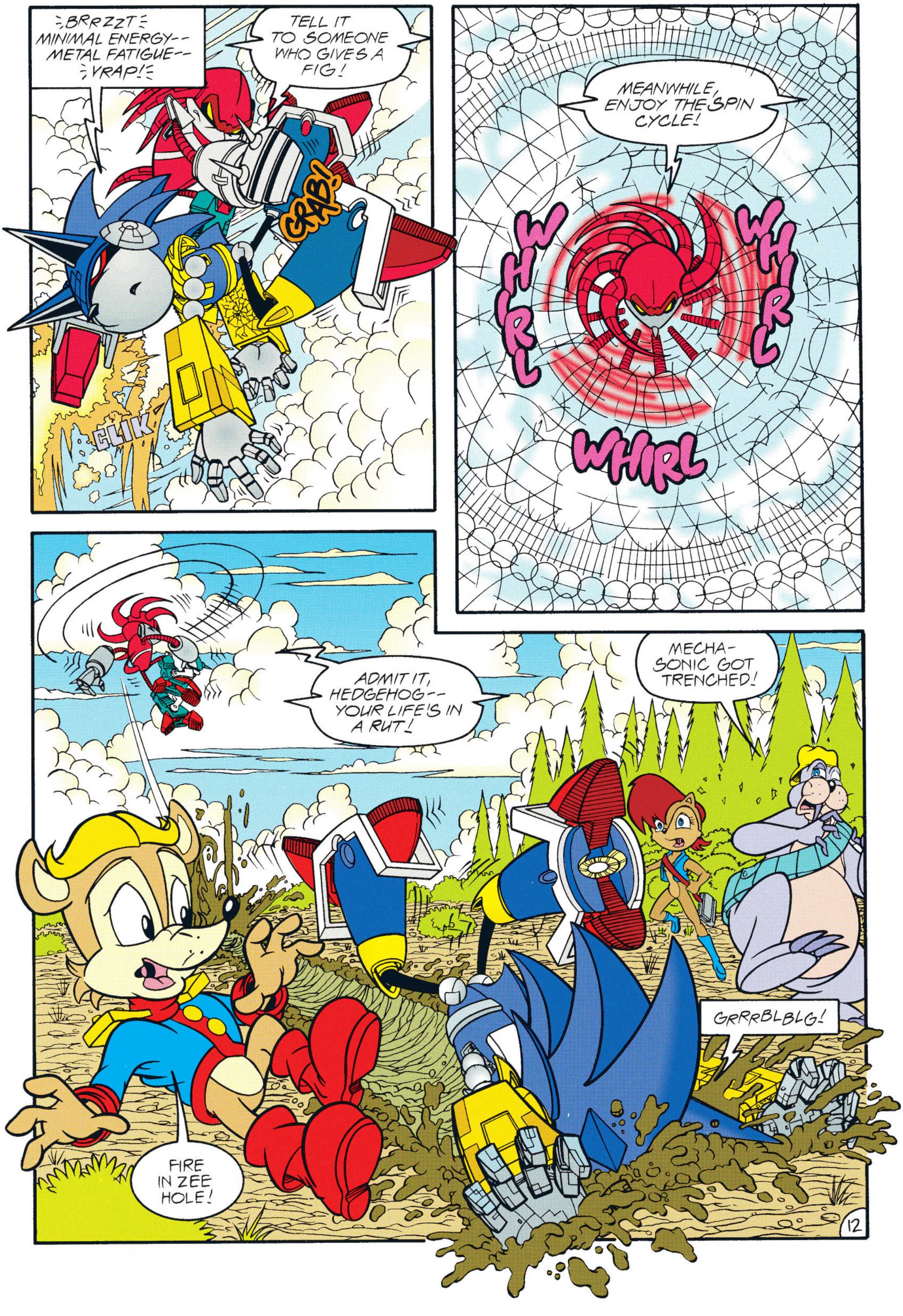

SONIC™ THE HEDGEHOG IS OBLITERATING KNOTHOLE VILLAGE!
MECHA MADNESS
PART II
SPASK
IT'S A GOOD THING I HAD THE PLACE EVACUATED! THERE'S NO ONE HERE ...EXCEPT...
uh-oh!
ME!
WHOOP... I'VE BEEN SPOTTED!
PERCUSSION BLAST
CHARGE PHOTON CANNON
FREEDOM FIGHTER CODENAME: TAILS!
TARGET LOCK
DISTANCE RATIO.12
526M.91
ELIMINATE!
FIRING DISTANCE.SYV

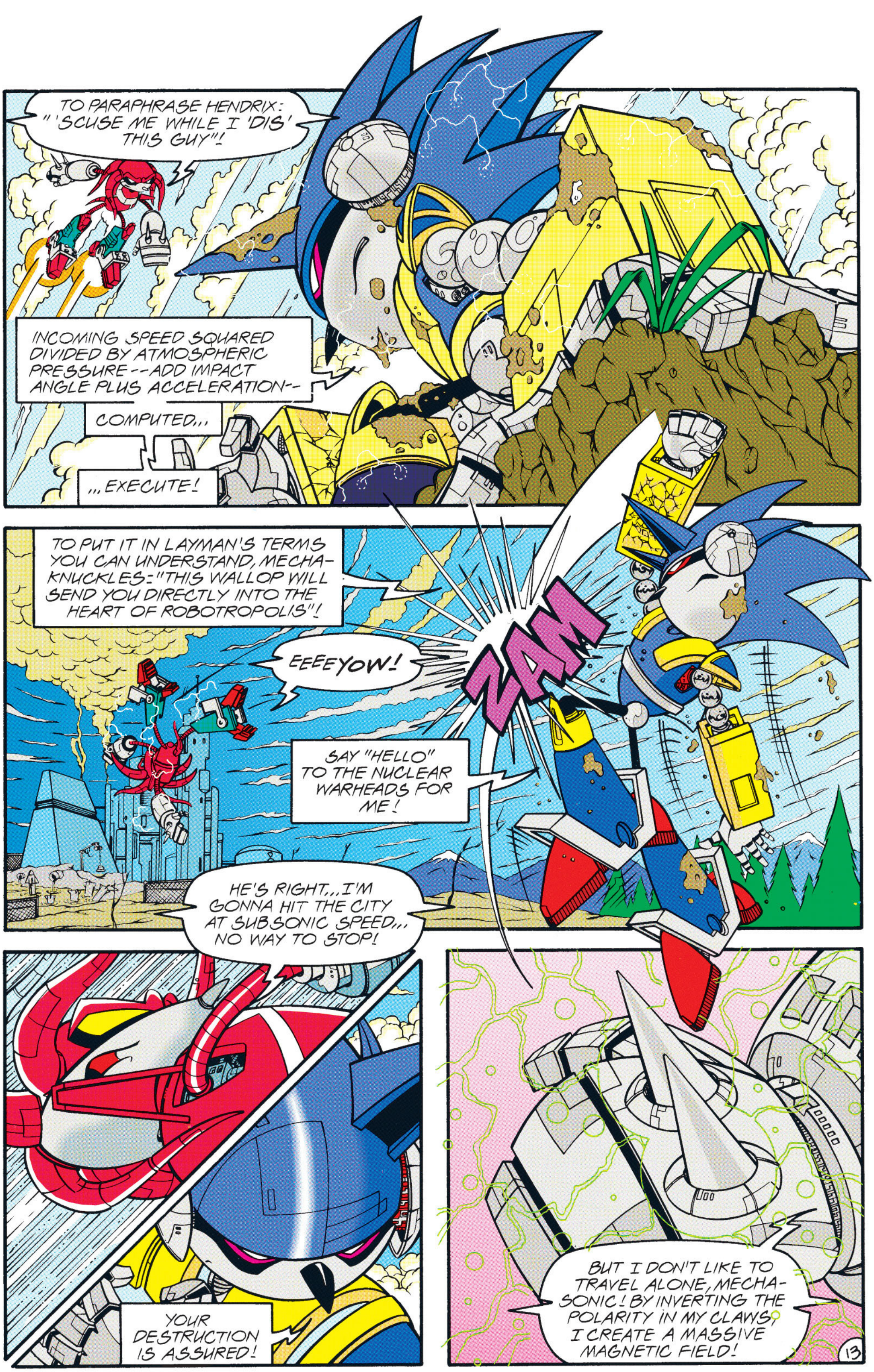

YIPE! I'M OUTTA HERE!
VROOOSH
RAPID AERIAL ACCELERATION- TARGET STILL WITHIN RANGE.
CH-KAM!
CO-ORDINATES FED TO WEAPON SYSTEM,,,
I,,, M-MUST,,,
C-CANNOT,,,
M-MUST--
MECHA-SONIC!
YES, LORD ROBOTNIK?
DID I DETECT SOME HESITATION? YOUR ORDERS ARE TO WIPE OUT ALL YOUR FORMER ALLIES!
Oh, NEVER MIND,,, I'LL DO IT MYSELF! GIVE ME YOUR CO-ORDINATES-- I'VE GOT A STOCKPILE OF NUCLEAR BOMBS I'M DYING TO USE!
S-SUH-SEND YOU THE LOCATION--
--OF KNOTHOLE?
YES, YOU MECHA-MORON! YOU ARE MY SLAVE! DO AS I SAY IMMEDIATELY!
,,,Y-YES,,, OF COURSE!
SORRY, MASTER--
THE NUMBERS ARE,,,

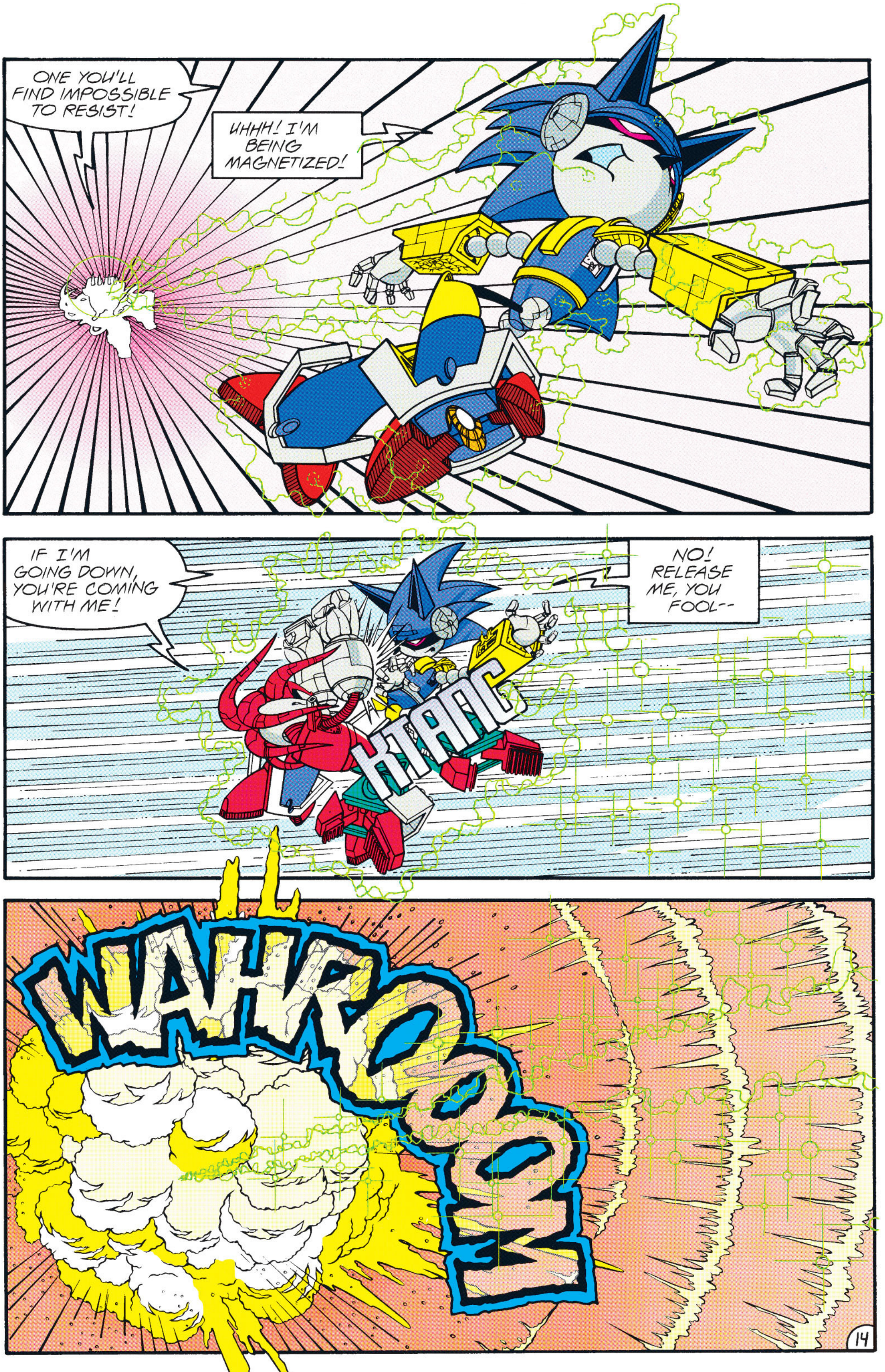

ONE MOMENT-- I HAVE TO PUT YOUR CALL ON "HOLD"!
SPLANG
GROWWGH!
MECHA-KNUCKLES IS IN CHARGE NOW... AND THE FIRST THING I'M GONNA DO IS SEVER YOUR COMMUNICATIONS WITH OLD BLUBBERBOLTS!
KSH
HOW DARE YGZZZT--
CHCK!
OBVIOUSLY, YOU HAVE RETAINED YOUR NORMAL ECHIDNA PERSONALITY--

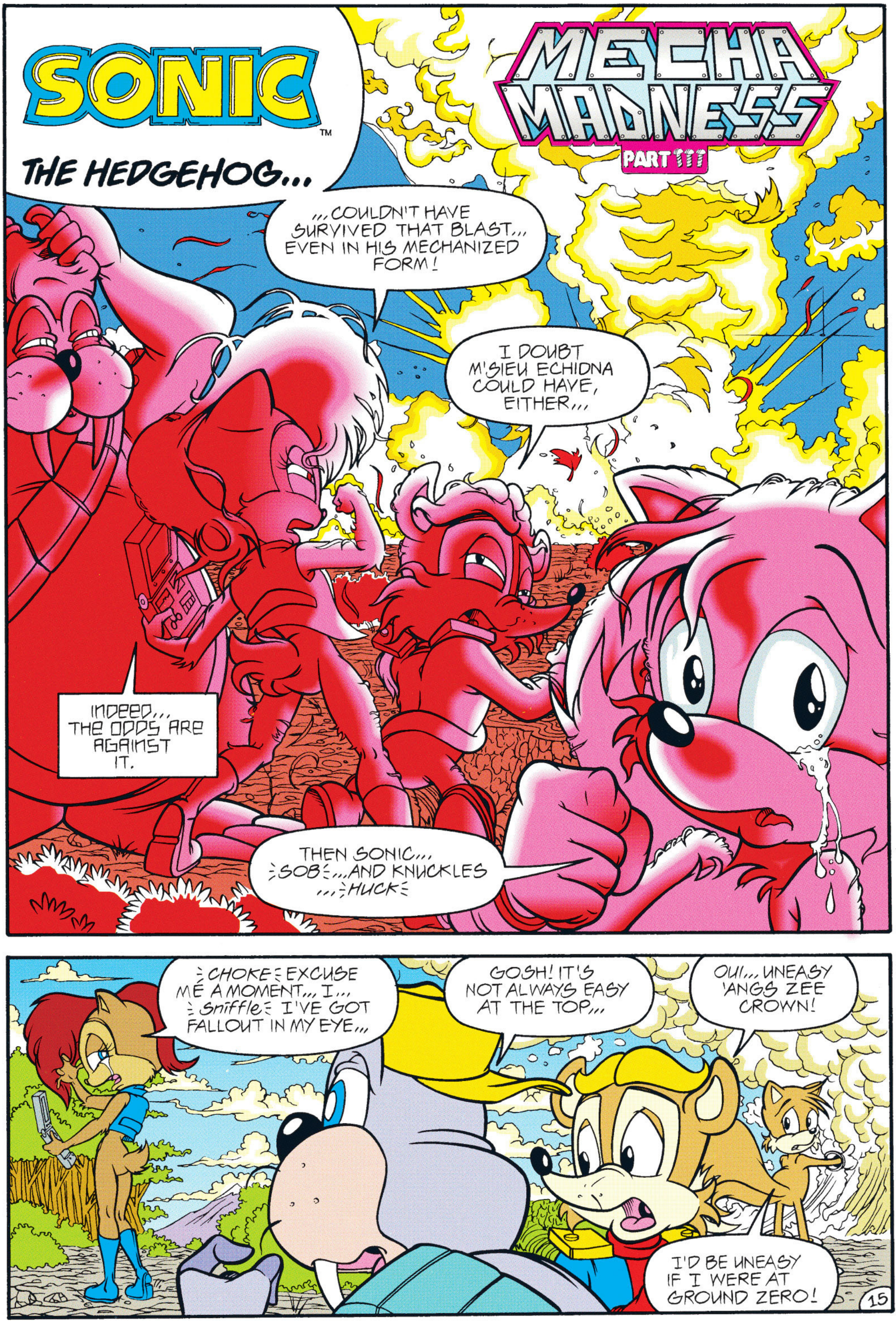

ZROK
THAT FLAW SHALL BE YOUR UNDOING!
GNYAAA!
GRACIOUS!
MON DIEU!
IT'S THE BATTLE OF THE *SEGA-CENTURY!*
WHO WILL PREVAIL?
THEY'RE VERY EVENLY MATCHED! THE ONLY THING IN OUR FAVOR IS THAT *MECHA-KNUCKLES* HAS FRESH LEGS!
IN YOUR FACE!
RIGHT! MECHA-SONIC HAS ALREADY BATTLED BUNNIE AND KNUCKLES IN HIS NORMAL FORM...
AWP!
LOOKY YONDER... TAILS IS COMIN' IN LOW!
PLUS YOU LET THE ECHIDNA KEEP HIS FREE WILL...

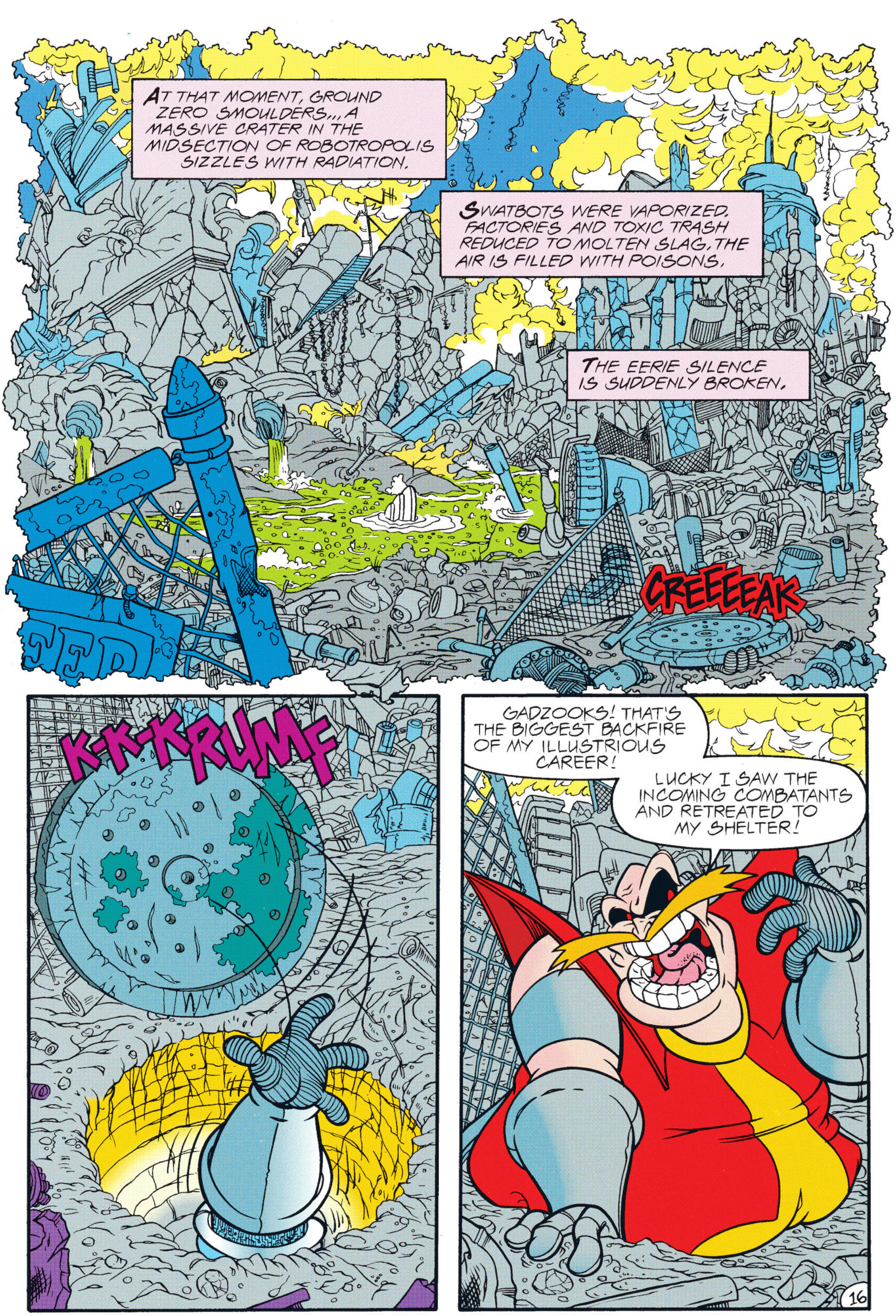

I'LL END THIS QUICKLY--BY LETTING YOU HAVE IT WITH BOTH BARRELS!
BRING IT ON! MY MAGNETIC KNUCKLAWS WILL DISPERSE YOUR BLAST AND DRAIN YOUR BATTERIES!

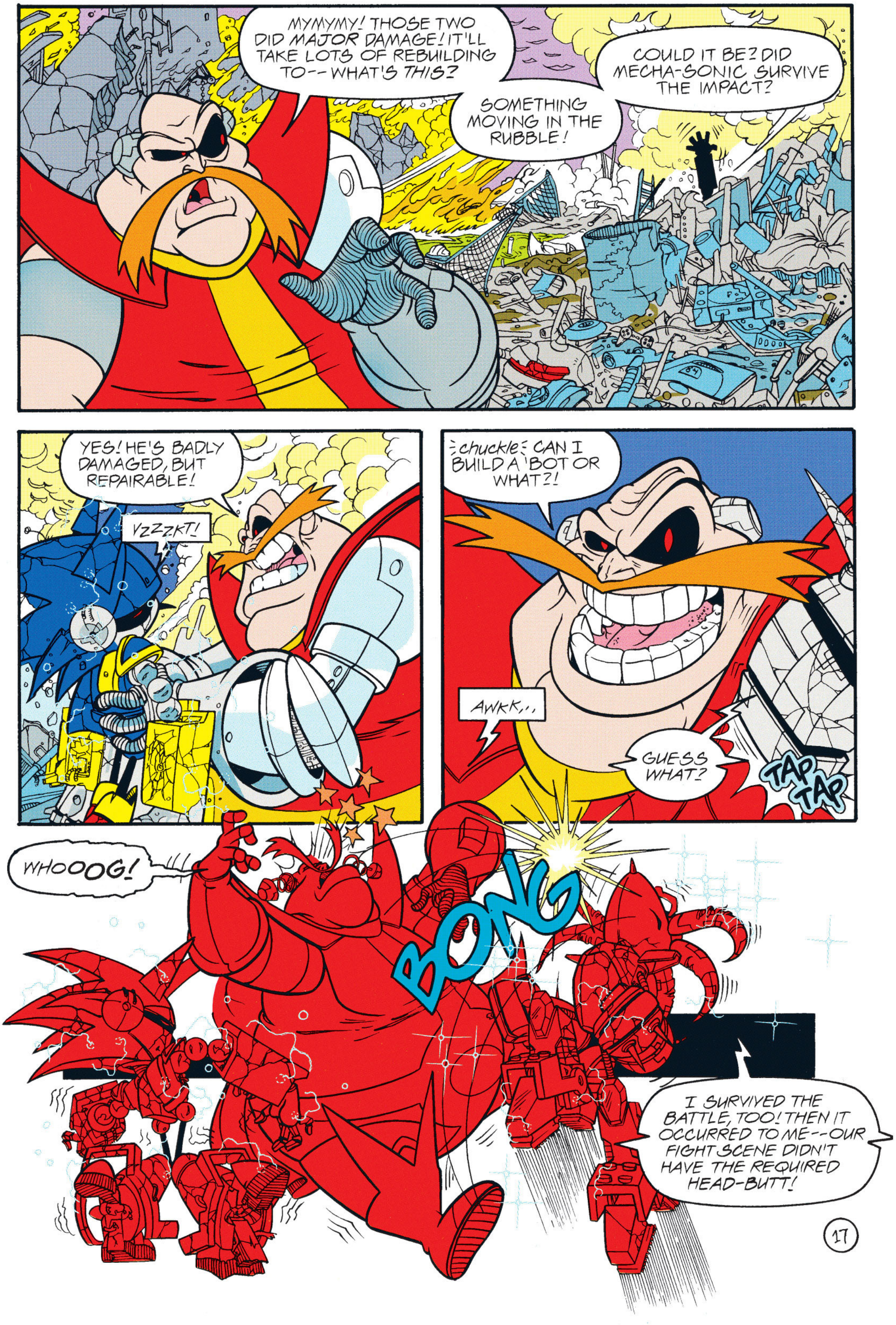

BRRZZT MINIMAL ENERGY-- METAL FATIGUE-- VRAP!
TELL IT TO SOMEONE WHO GIVES A FIG!
GRAB!
CLIK
MEANWHILE, ENJOY THE SPIN CYCLE!
WHIRL
WHIRL
WHIRL
ADMIT IT, HEDGEHOG-- YOUR LIFE'S IN A RUT!
MECHA-SONIC GOT TRENCHED!
GRRRBLBLG!
FIRE IN ZEE HOLE!

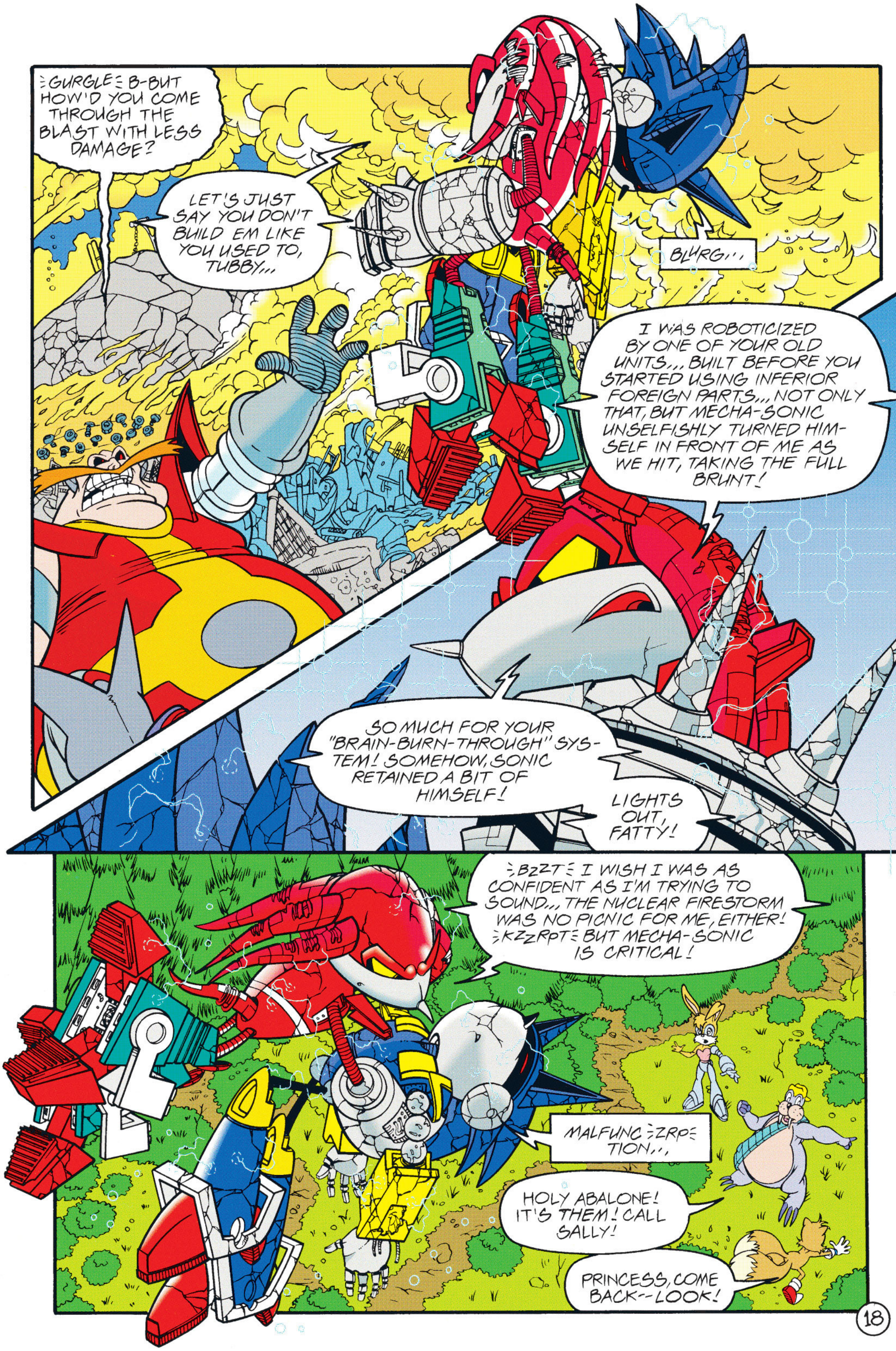

TO PARAPHRASE HENDRIX: "'SCUSE ME WHILE I 'DIS' THIS GUY"!
INCOMING SPEED SQUARED DIVIDED BY ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE--ADD IMPACT ANGLE PLUS ACCELERATION--
COMPUTED...
...EXECUTE!
TO PUT IT IN LAYMAN'S TERMS YOU CAN UNDERSTAND, MECHA-KNUCKLES: "THIS WALLOP WILL SEND YOU DIRECTLY INTO THE HEART OF ROBOTROPOLIS"!
ZAM
EEEEYOW!
SAY "HELLO" TO THE NUCLEAR WARHEADS FOR ME!
HE'S RIGHT... I'M GONNA HIT THE CITY AT SUBSONIC SPEED... NO WAY TO STOP!
YOUR DESTRUCTION IS ASSURED!
BUT I DON'T LIKE TO TRAVEL ALONE, MECHA-SONIC! BY INVERTING THE POLARITY IN MY CLAWS, I CREATE A MASSIVE MAGNETIC FIELD!

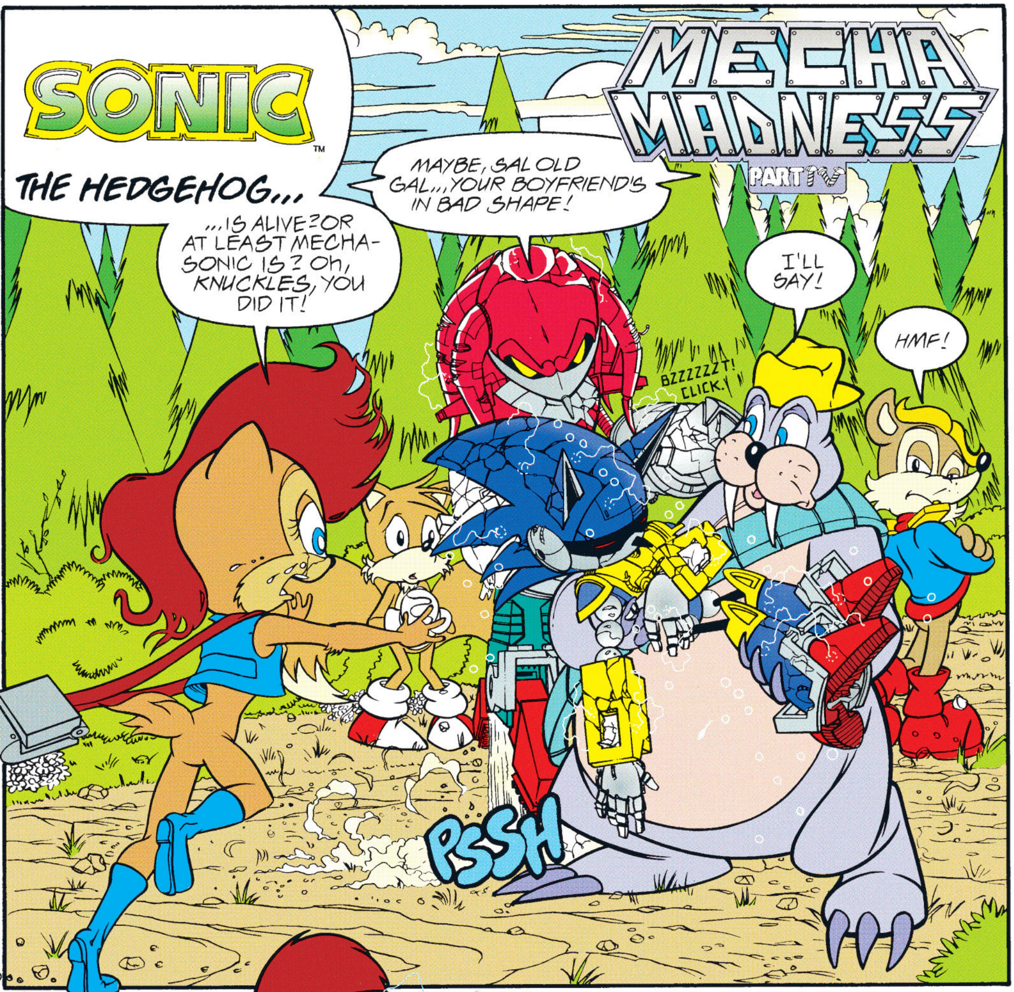

ONE YOU'LL FIND IMPOSSIBLE TO RESIST!
UHHH! I'M BEING MAGNETIZED!
IF I'M GOING DOWN, YOU'RE COMING WITH ME!
NO! RELEASE ME, YOU FOOL--
KTANG
WAHROOM

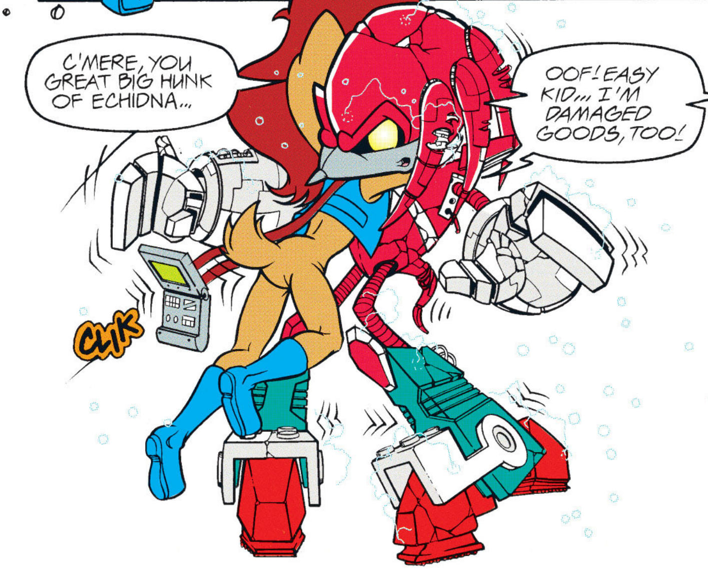

SONIC™
THE HEDGEHOG...
MECHA MADNESS
PART III
...COULDN'T HAVE SURVIVED THAT BLAST... EVEN IN HIS MECHANIZED FORM!
I DOUBT M'SIEU ECHIDNA COULD HAVE, EITHER...
INDEED... THE ODDS ARE AGAINST IT.
THEN SONIC... ⸗SOB⸗ ...AND KNUCKLES ...⸗HUCK⸗
⸗CHOKE⸗ EXCUSE ME A MOMENT... I... ⸗Sniffle⸗ I'VE GOT FALLOUT IN MY EYE...
GOSH! IT'S NOT ALWAYS EASY AT THE TOP...
OUI... UNEASY 'ANGS ZEE CROWN!
I'D BE UNEASY IF I WERE AT GROUND ZERO!

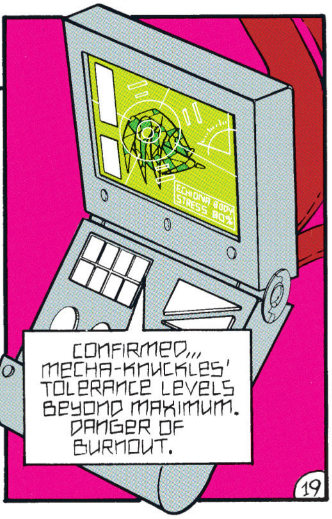

AT THAT MOMENT, GROUND ZERO SMOULDERS... A MASSIVE CRATER IN THE MIDSECTION OF ROBOTROPOLIS SIZZLES WITH RADIATION.
SWATBOTS WERE VAPORIZED. FACTORIES AND TOXIC TRASH REDUCED TO MOLTEN SLAG. THE AIR IS FILLED WITH POISONS.
THE EERIE SILENCE IS SUDDENLY BROKEN.
CREEEEAK
K-K-KRUMF
GADZOOKS! THAT'S THE BIGGEST BACKFIRE OF MY ILLUSTRIOUS CAREER!
LUCKY I SAW THE INCOMING COMBATANTS AND RETREATED TO MY SHELTER!

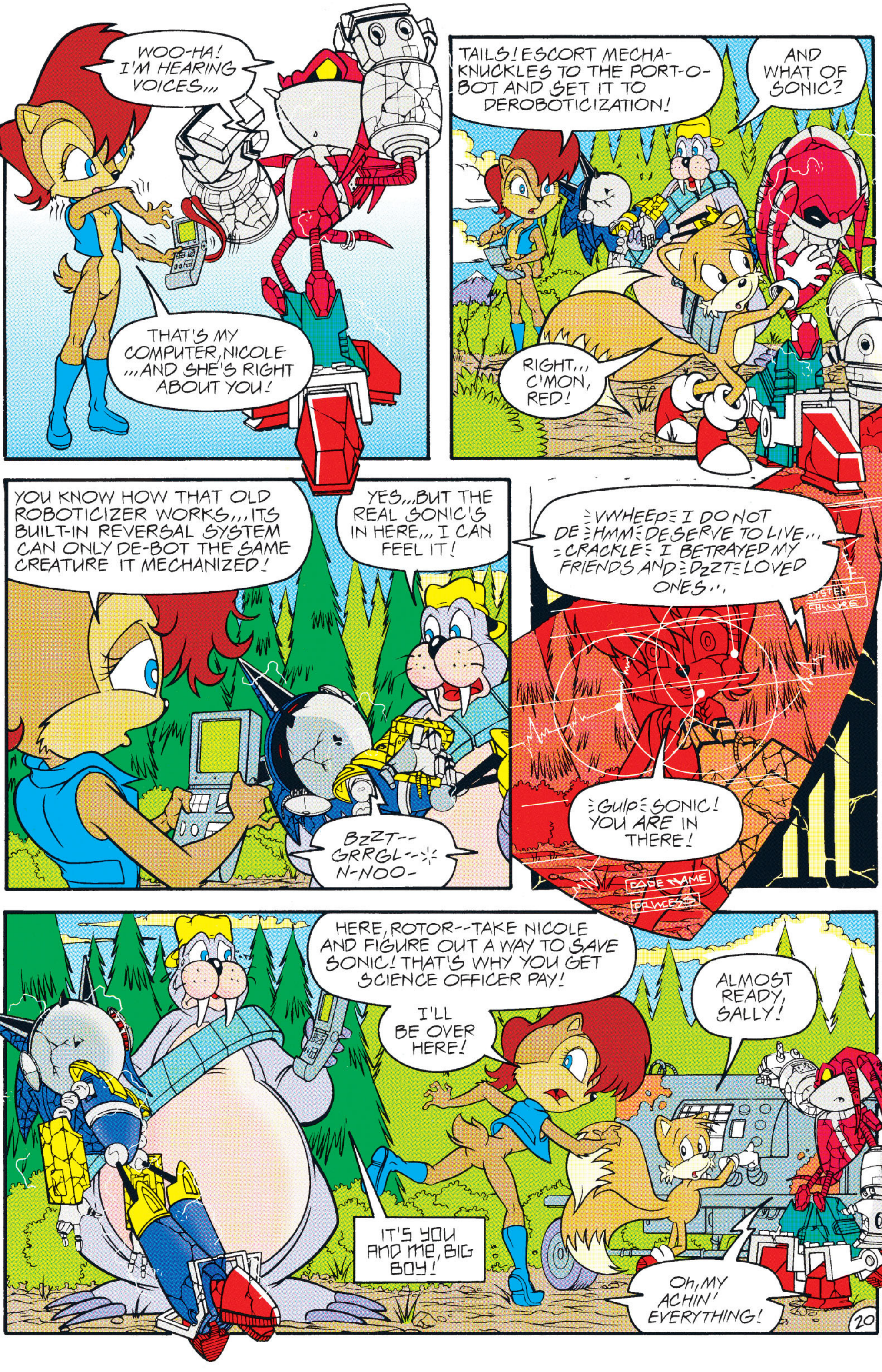

MYMYMY! THOSE TWO DID MAJOR DAMAGE! IT'LL TAKE LOTS OF REBUILDING TO--WHAT'S THIS?
SOMETHING MOVING IN THE RUBBLE!
COULD IT BE? DID MECHA-SONIC SURVIVE THE IMPACT?
YES! HE'S BADLY DAMAGED, BUT REPAIRABLE!
VZZZKT!
:chuckle: CAN I BUILD A 'BOT OR WHAT?!
AWKK...
GUESS WHAT?
TAP TAP
WHOOOG!
BONG
I SURVIVED THE BATTLE, TOO! THEN IT OCCURRED TO ME--OUR FIGHT SCENE DIDN'T HAVE THE REQUIRED HEAD-BUTT!

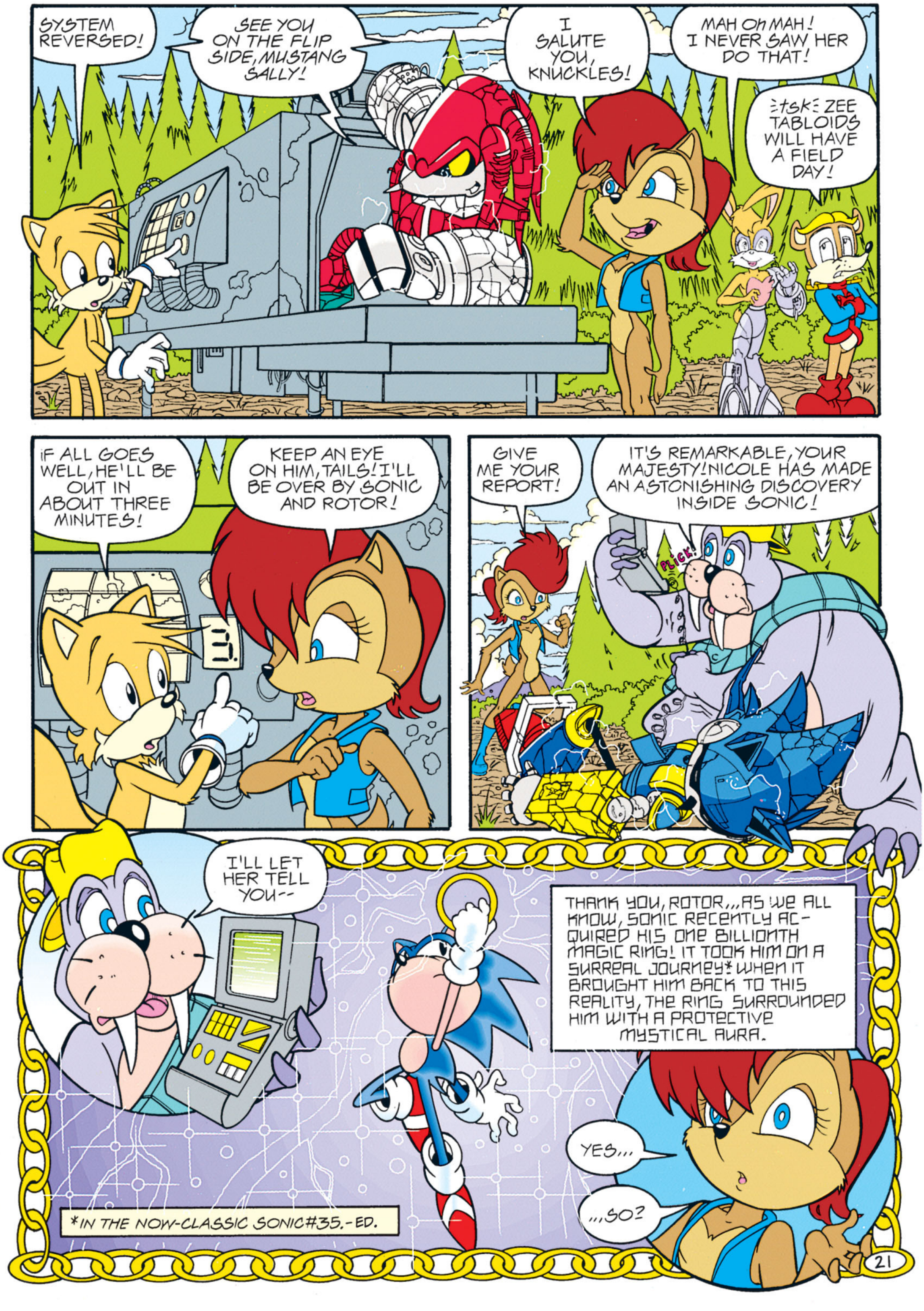

≡GURGLE≡ B-BUT HOW'D YOU COME THROUGH THE BLAST WITH LESS DAMAGE?
LET'S JUST SAY YOU DON'T BUILD EM LIKE YOU USED TO, TUBBY...
BLURG...
I WAS ROBOTICIZED BY ONE OF YOUR OLD UNITS... BUILT BEFORE YOU STARTED USING INFERIOR FOREIGN PARTS... NOT ONLY THAT, BUT MECHA-SONIC UNSELFISHLY TURNED HIMSELF IN FRONT OF ME AS WE HIT, TAKING THE FULL BRUNT!
SO MUCH FOR YOUR "BRAIN-BURN-THROUGH" SYSTEM! SOMEHOW, SONIC RETAINED A BIT OF HIMSELF!
LIGHTS OUT, FATTY!
≡BZZT≡ I WISH I WAS AS CONFIDENT AS I'M TRYING TO SOUND... THE NUCLEAR FIRESTORM WAS NO PICNIC FOR ME, EITHER! ≡KZZRPT≡ BUT MECHA-SONIC IS CRITICAL!
MALFUNC ≡ZRP≡ TION...
HOLY ABALONE! IT'S THEM! CALL SALLY!
PRINCESS, COME BACK--LOOK!

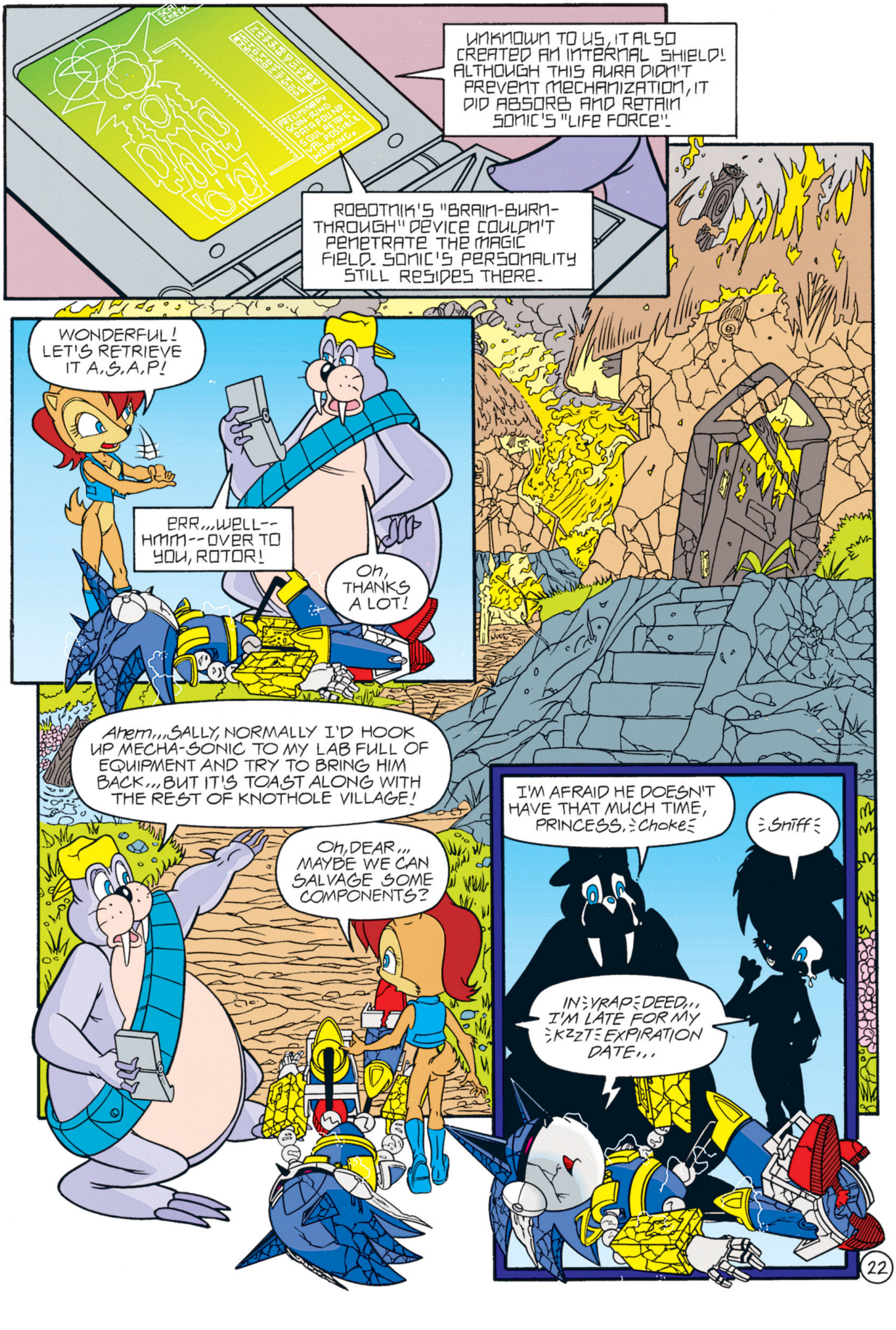

SONIC™
THE HEDGEHOG...
MECHA MADNESS
PART IV
...IS ALIVE?OR AT LEAST MECHA-SONIC IS? Oh, KNUCKLES, YOU DID IT!
MAYBE, SAL OLD GAL... YOUR BOYFRIEND'S IN BAD SHAPE!
I'LL SAY!
HMF!
BZZZZZZT! CLICK.
PSSH

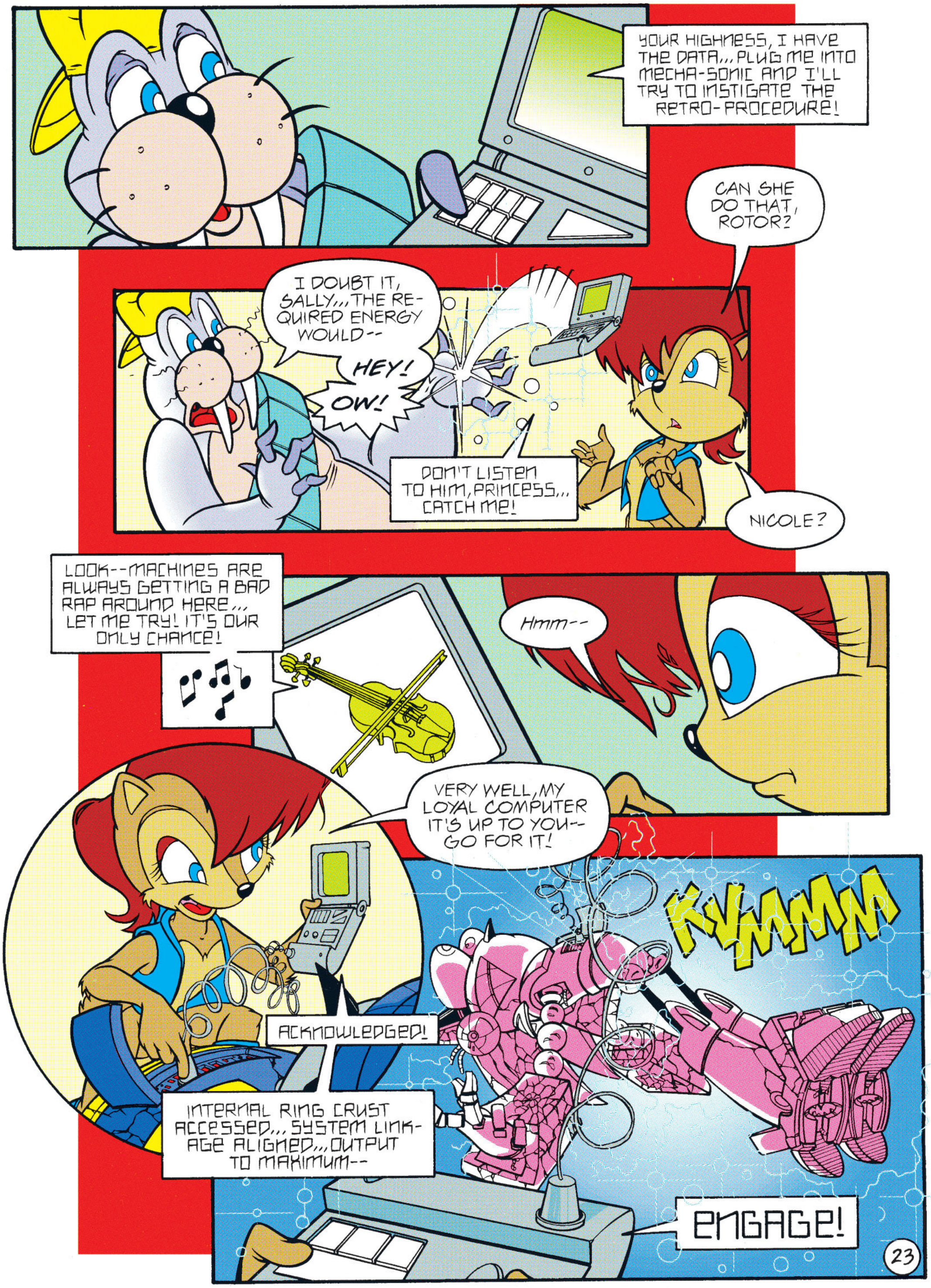

C'MERE, YOU GREAT BIG HUNK OF ECHIDNA...
OOF! EASY KID... I'M DAMAGED GOODS, TOO!
CLIK

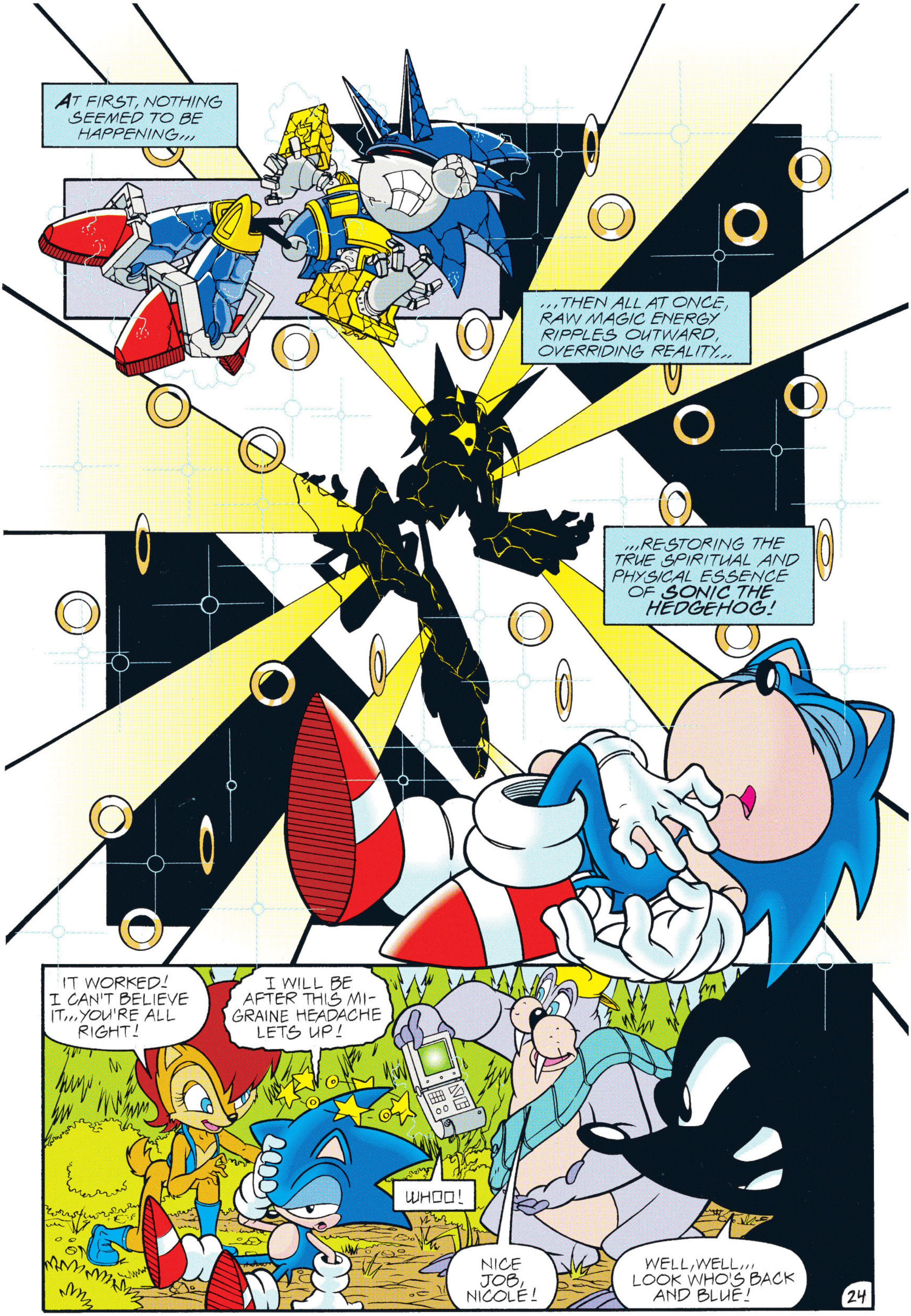

ECHIDNA BODY STRESS 80%
CONFIRMED... MECHA-KNUCKLES' TOLERANCE LEVELS BEYOND MAXIMUM. DANGER OF BURNOUT.

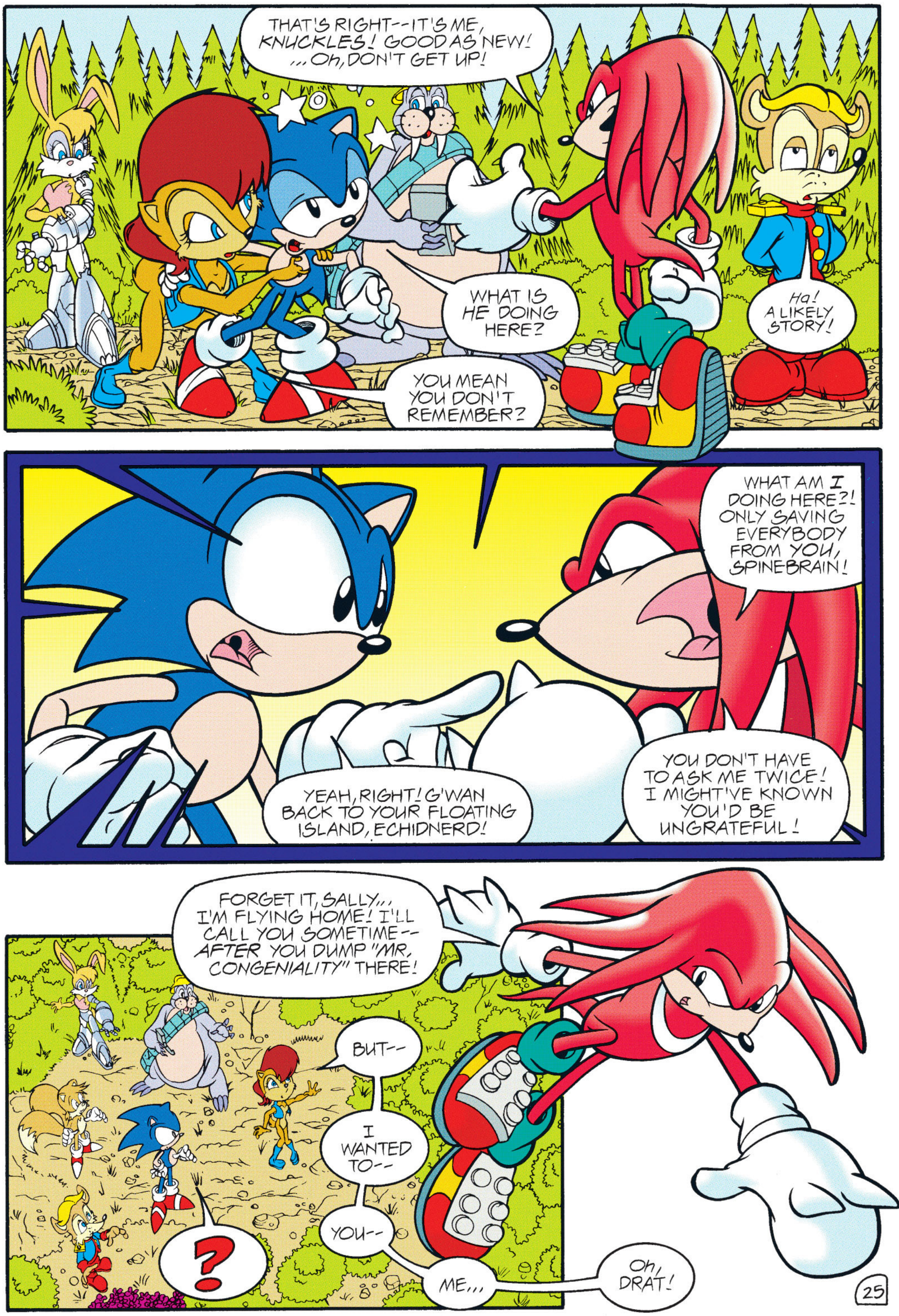

WOO-HA! I'M HEARING VOICES...
THAT'S MY COMPUTER, NICOLE ...AND SHE'S RIGHT ABOUT YOU!
TAILS! ESCORT MECHA-KNUCKLES TO THE PORT-O-BOT AND SET IT TO DEROBOTICIZATION!
AND WHAT OF SONIC?
RIGHT... C'MON, RED!
YOU KNOW HOW THAT OLD ROBOTICIZER WORKS... ITS BUILT-IN REVERSAL SYSTEM CAN ONLY DE-BOT THE SAME CREATURE IT MECHANIZED!
YES... BUT THE REAL SONIC'S IN HERE... I CAN FEEL IT!
BZZT-- GRRGL-- N-NOO-
VWHEEP I DO NOT DE HMM DESERVE TO LIVE... CRACKLE I BETRAYED MY FRIENDS AND DZZT LOVED ONES...
SYSTEM FAILURE
GULP SONIC! YOU ARE IN THERE!
CODE NAME
PRINCESS
HERE, ROTOR--TAKE NICOLE AND FIGURE OUT A WAY TO SAVE SONIC! THAT'S WHY YOU GET SCIENCE OFFICER PAY!
I'LL BE OVER HERE!
IT'S YOU AND ME, BIG BOY!
ALMOST READY, SALLY!
OH, MY ACHIN' EVERYTHING!

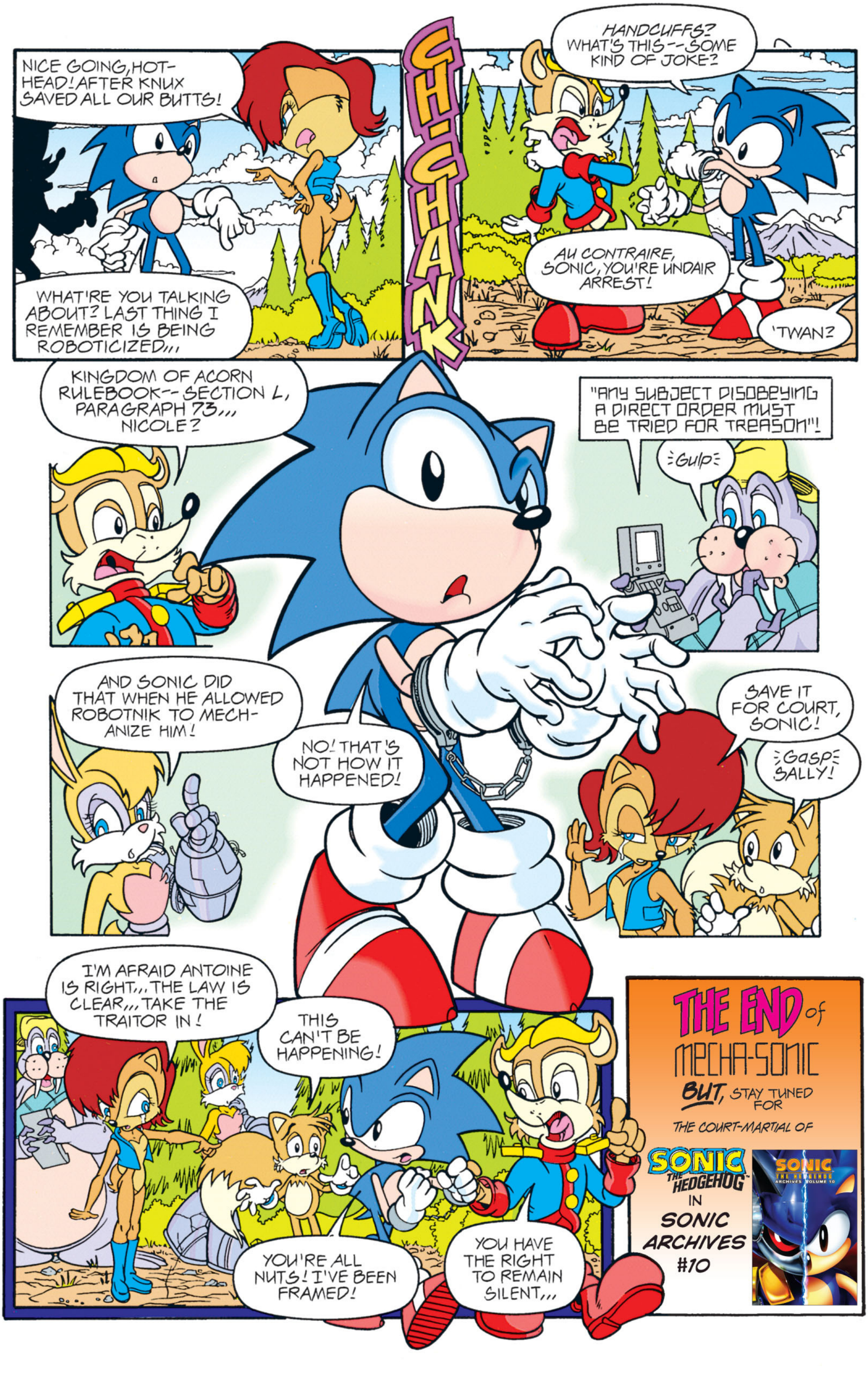

SYSTEM REVERSED!
SEE YOU ON THE FLIP SIDE, MUSTANG SALLY!
I SALUTE YOU, KNUCKLES!
MAH Oh MAH! I NEVER SAW HER DO THAT!
≡tsk≡ ZEE TABLOIDS WILL HAVE A FIELD DAY!
IF ALL GOES WELL, HE'LL BE OUT IN ABOUT THREE MINUTES!
3.
KEEP AN EYE ON HIM, TAILS! I'LL BE OVER BY SONIC AND ROTOR!
GIVE ME YOUR REPORT!
IT'S REMARKABLE, YOUR MAJESTY! NICOLE HAS MADE AN ASTONISHING DISCOVERY INSIDE SONIC!
PLICK!
I'LL LET HER TELL YOU--
THANK YOU, ROTOR,,, AS WE ALL KNOW, SONIC RECENTLY ACQUIRED HIS ONE BILLIONTH MAGIC RING! IT TOOK HIM ON A SURREAL JOURNEY!* WHEN IT BROUGHT HIM BACK TO THIS REALITY, THE RING SURROUNDED HIM WITH A PROTECTIVE MYSTICAL AURA.
YES,,,
,,,SO?
*IN THE NOW-CLASSIC SONIC #35.-ED.

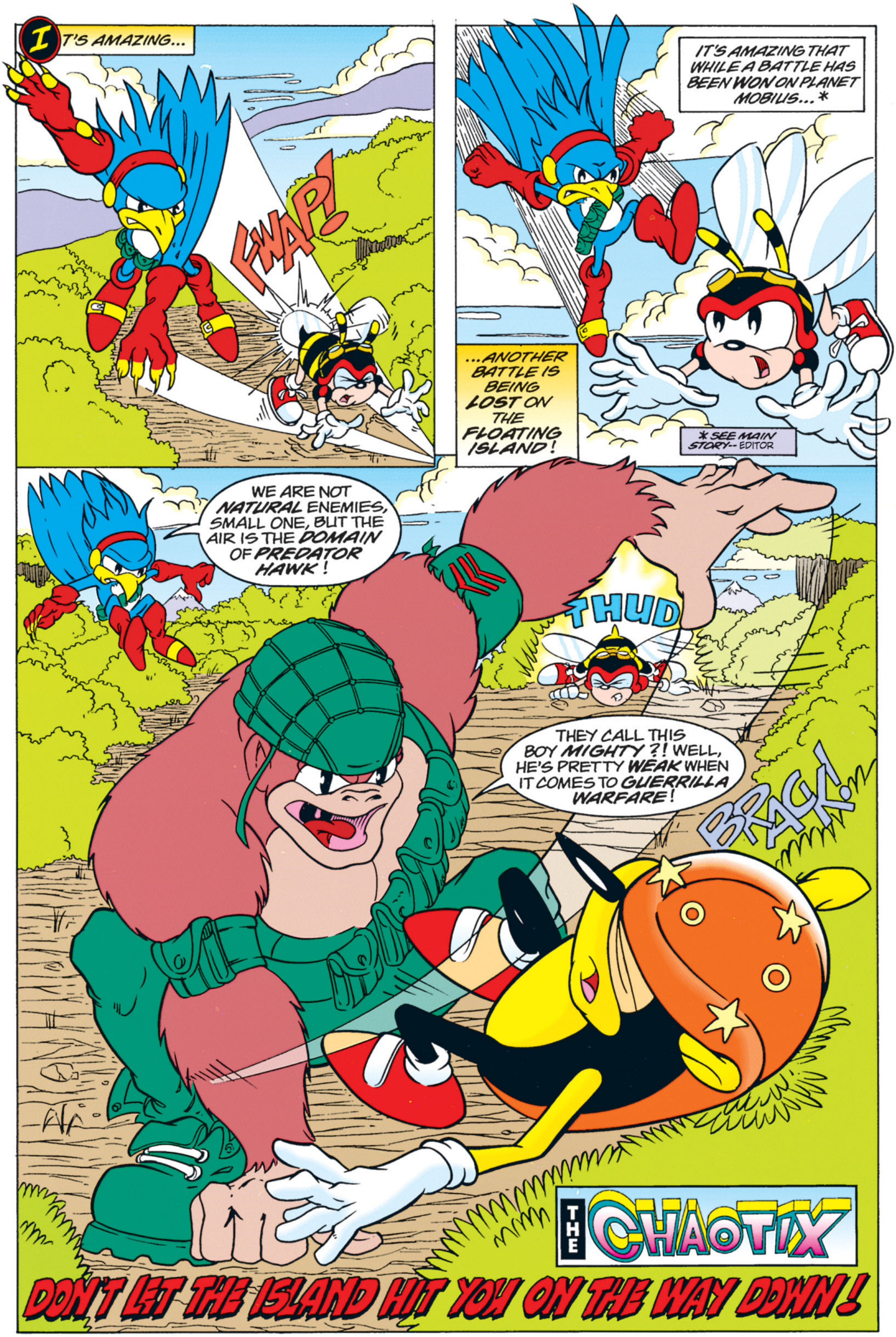

SCAN CHECK
PRELIMINARY SCAN-RING DATA FOUND. SOUL RETRIEVAL POSSIBLE. WORKING.
UNKNOWN TO US, IT ALSO CREATED AN INTERNAL SHIELD! ALTHOUGH THIS AURA DIDN'T PREVENT MECHANIZATION, IT DID ABSORB AND RETAIN SONIC'S "LIFE FORCE".
ROBOTNIK'S "BRAIN-BURN-THROUGH" DEVICE COULDN'T PENETRATE THE MAGIC FIELD. SONIC'S PERSONALITY STILL RESIDES THERE.
WONDERFUL! LET'S RETRIEVE IT A.S.A.P!
ERR... WELL-- HMM--OVER TO YOU, ROTOR!
Oh, THANKS A LOT!
Ahem... SALLY, NORMALLY I'D HOOK UP MECHA-SONIC TO MY LAB FULL OF EQUIPMENT AND TRY TO BRING HIM BACK... BUT IT'S TOAST ALONG WITH THE REST OF KNOTHOLE VILLAGE!
Oh, DEAR... MAYBE WE CAN SALVAGE SOME COMPONENTS?
I'M AFRAID HE DOESN'T HAVE THAT MUCH TIME, PRINCESS. Choke
Sniff
IN YRAP DEED... I'M LATE FOR MY KZZT EXPIRATION DATE...

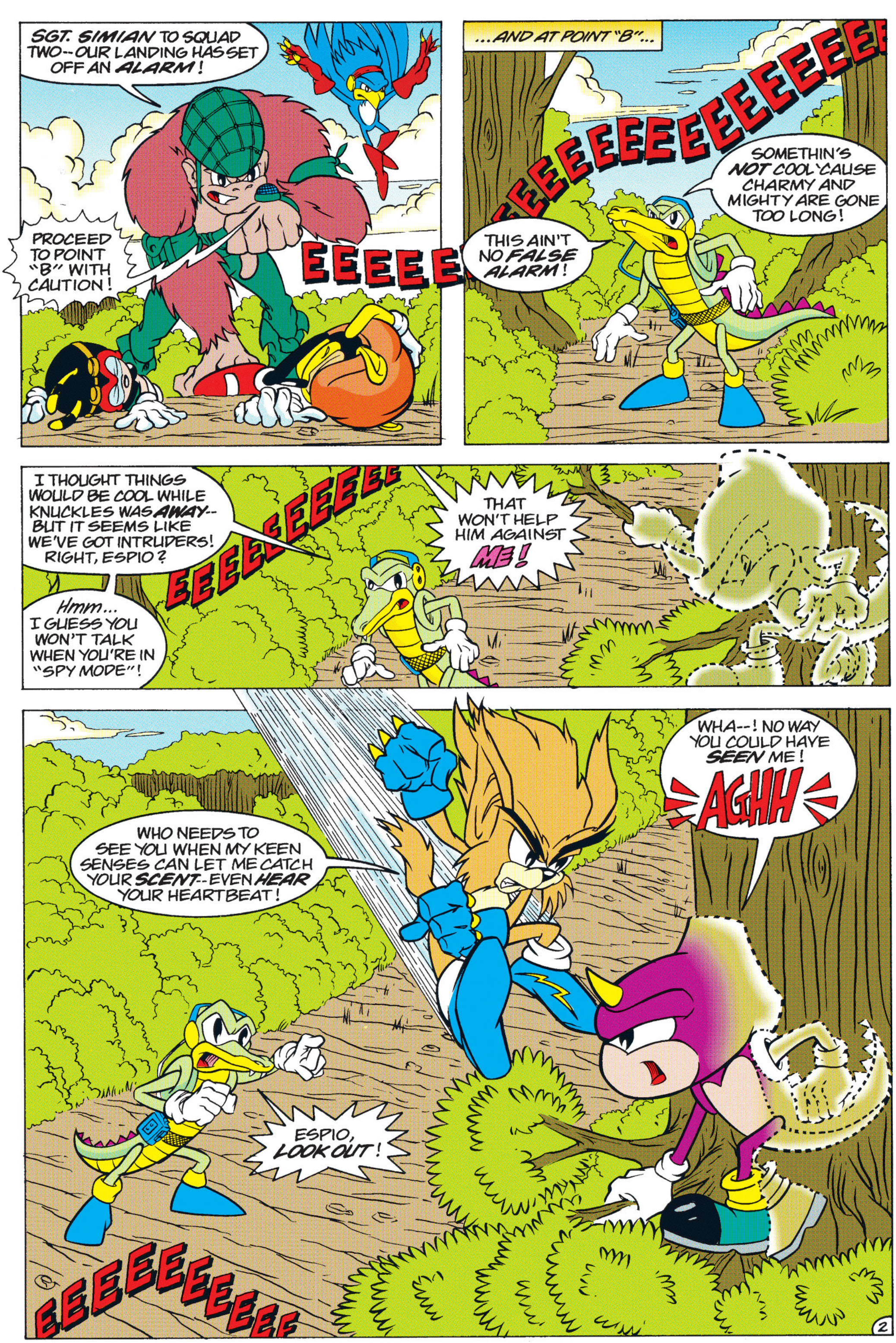

YOUR HIGHNESS, I HAVE THE DATA... PLUG ME INTO MECHA-SONIC AND I'LL TRY TO INSTIGATE THE RETRO-PROCEDURE!
CAN SHE DO THAT, ROTOR?
I DOUBT IT, SALLY... THE REQUIRED ENERGY WOULD--
HEY!
OW!
DON'T LISTEN TO HIM, PRINCESS... CATCH ME!
NICOLE?
LOOK--MACHINES ARE ALWAYS GETTING A BAD RAP AROUND HERE... LET ME TRY! IT'S OUR ONLY CHANCE!
♪♫♪
Hmm--
VERY WELL, MY LOYAL COMPUTER IT'S UP TO YOU--GO FOR IT!
KVMMM
ACKNOWLEDGED!
INTERNAL RING CRUST ACCESSED... SYSTEM LINKAGE ALIGNED... OUTPUT TO MAXIMUM--
ENGAGE!

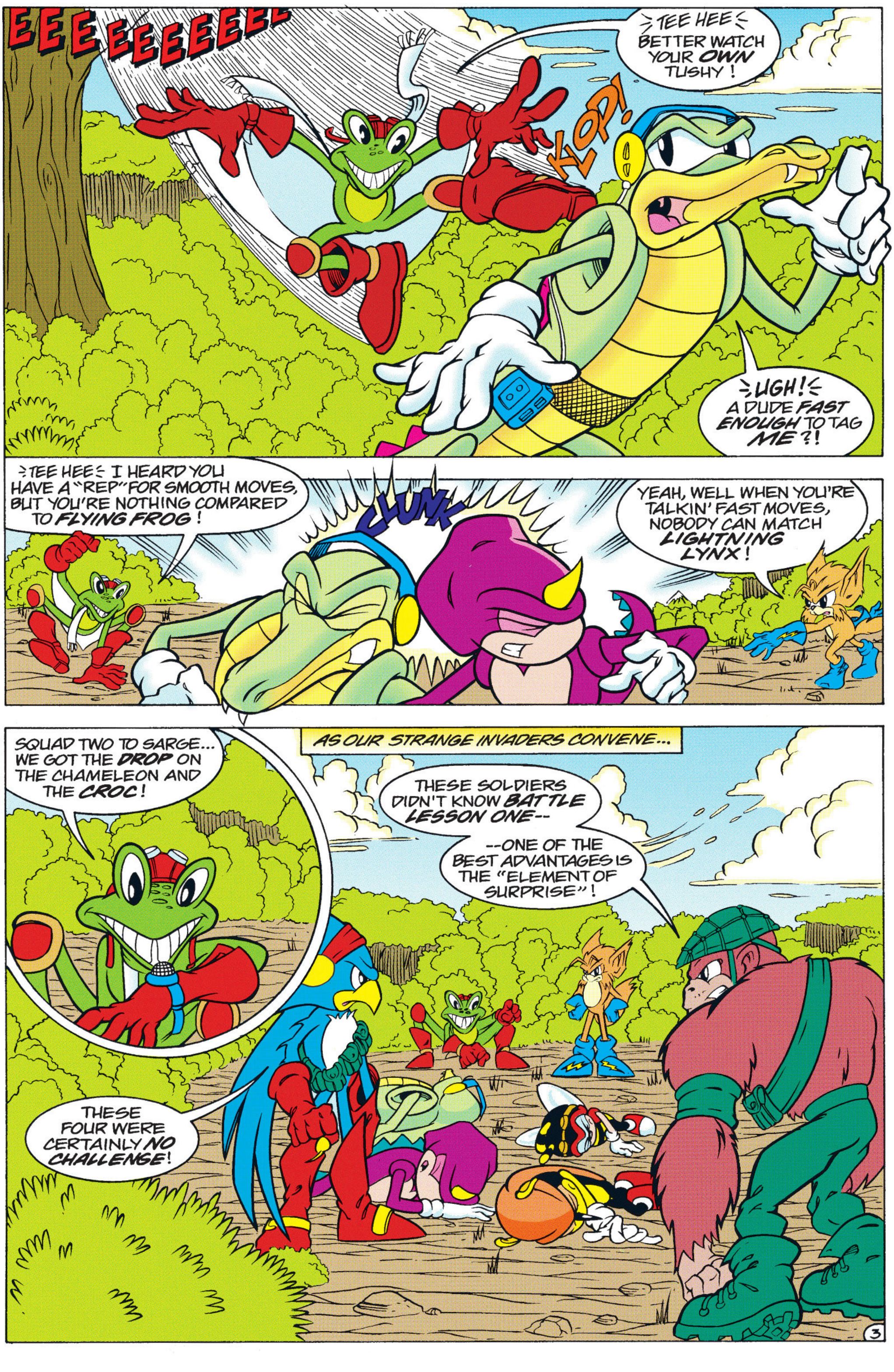

AT FIRST, NOTHING SEEMED TO BE HAPPENING...
...THEN ALL AT ONCE, RAW MAGIC ENERGY RIPPLES OUTWARD, OVERRIDING REALITY...
...RESTORING THE TRUE SPIRITUAL AND PHYSICAL ESSENCE OF **SONIC THE HEDGEHOG!**
IT WORKED! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT... YOU'RE ALL RIGHT!
I WILL BE AFTER THIS MIGRAINE HEADACHE LETS UP!
WHOO!
NICE JOB, NICOLE!
WELL, WELL... LOOK WHO'S BACK AND BLUE!

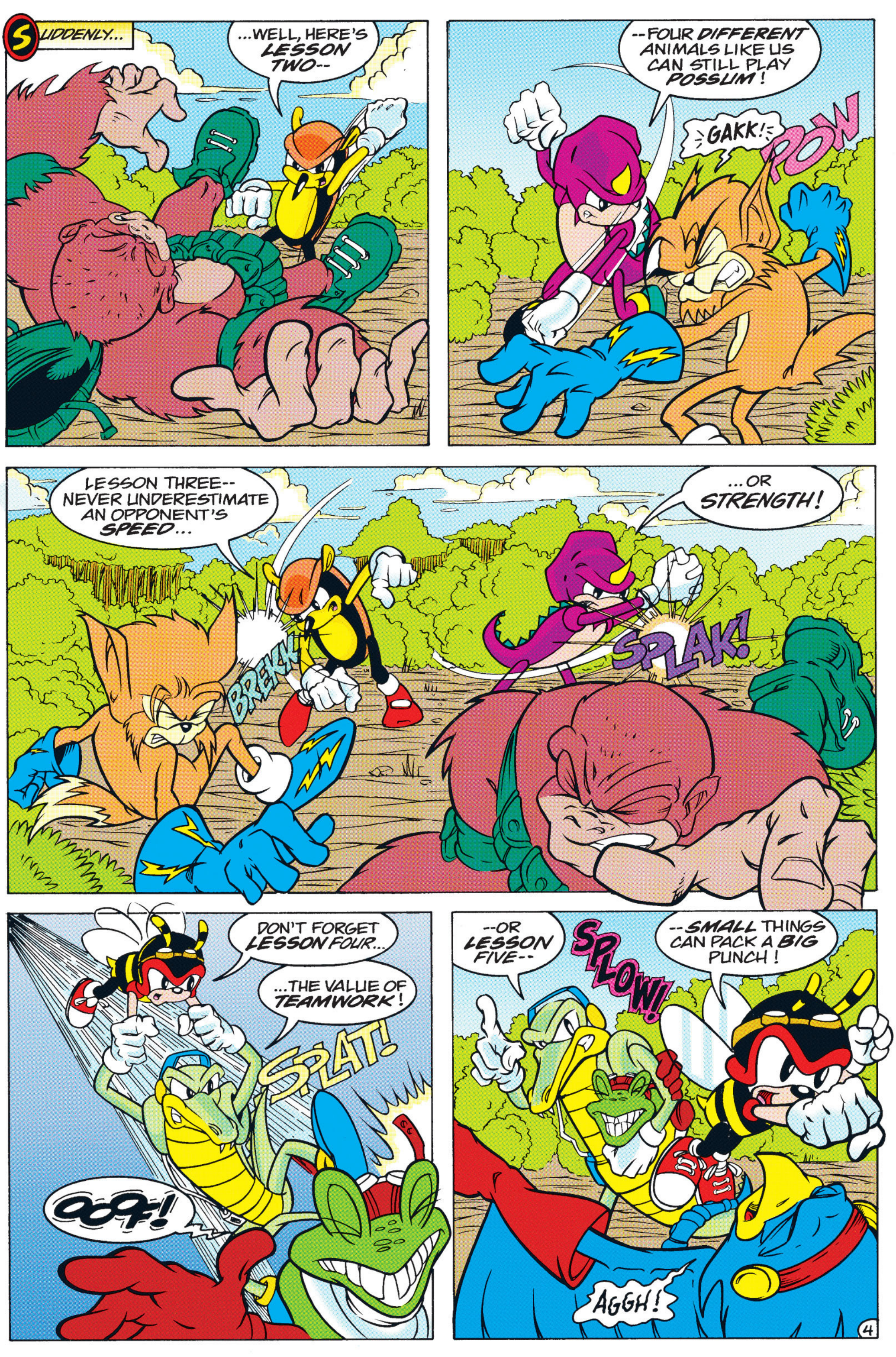

THAT'S RIGHT--IT'S ME, KNUCKLES! GOOD AS NEW! ...Oh, DON'T GET UP!
WHAT IS HE DOING HERE?
YOU MEAN YOU DON'T REMEMBER?
Ha! A LIKELY STORY!
WHAT AM I DOING HERE?! ONLY SAVING EVERYBODY FROM YOU, SPINEBRAIN!
YEAH, RIGHT! G'WAN BACK TO YOUR FLOATING ISLAND, ECHIDNERD!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO ASK ME TWICE! I MIGHT'VE KNOWN YOU'D BE UNGRATEFUL!
FORGET IT, SALLY... I'M FLYING HOME! I'LL CALL YOU SOMETIME-- AFTER YOU DUMP "MR. CONGENIALITY" THERE!
BUT--
I WANTED TO--
YOU--
ME...
Oh, DRAT!
?

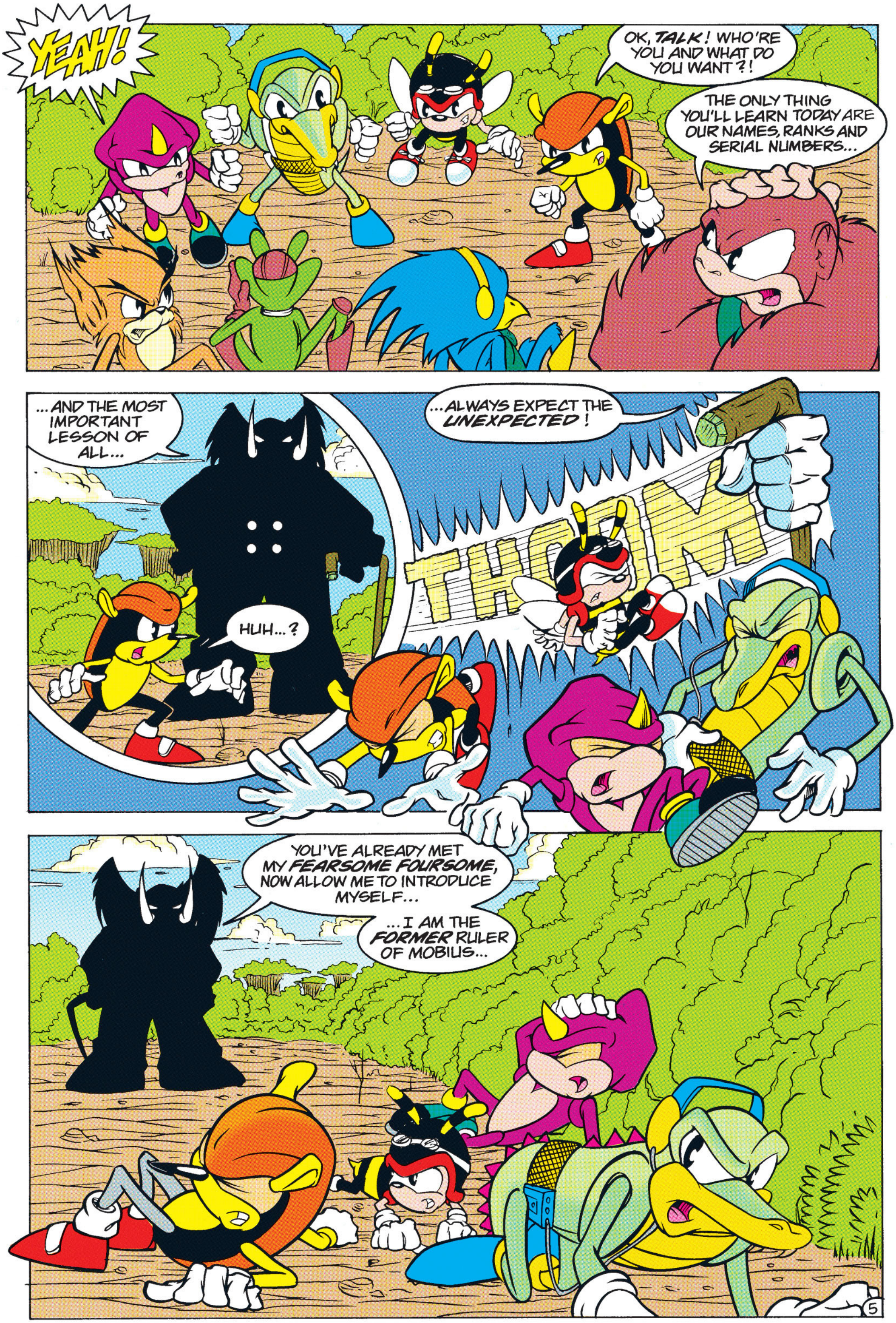

NICE GOING, HOT-HEAD! AFTER KNUX SAVED ALL OUR BUTTS!
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT? LAST THING I REMEMBER IS BEING ROBOTICIZED...
CH-CHANK
HANDCUFFS? WHAT'S THIS--SOME KIND OF JOKE?
AU CONTRAIRE, SONIC, YOU'RE UNDAIR ARREST!
'TWAN?
KINGDOM OF ACORN RULEBOOK--SECTION L, PARAGRAPH 73... NICOLE?
"ANY SUBJECT DISOBEYING A DIRECT ORDER MUST BE TRIED FOR TREASON"!
Gulp
AND SONIC DID THAT WHEN HE ALLOWED ROBOTNIK TO MECH-ANIZE HIM!
NO! THAT'S NOT HOW IT HAPPENED!
SAVE IT FOR COURT, SONIC!
Gasp SALLY!
I'M AFRAID ANTOINE IS RIGHT... THE LAW IS CLEAR... TAKE THE TRAITOR IN!
THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING!
YOU'RE ALL NUTS! I'VE BEEN FRAMED!
YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT...
THE END of MECHA-SONIC
BUT, STAY TUNED FOR
THE COURT-MARTIAL OF
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG IN
SONIC ARCHIVES #10
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG ARCHIVES VOLUME 10

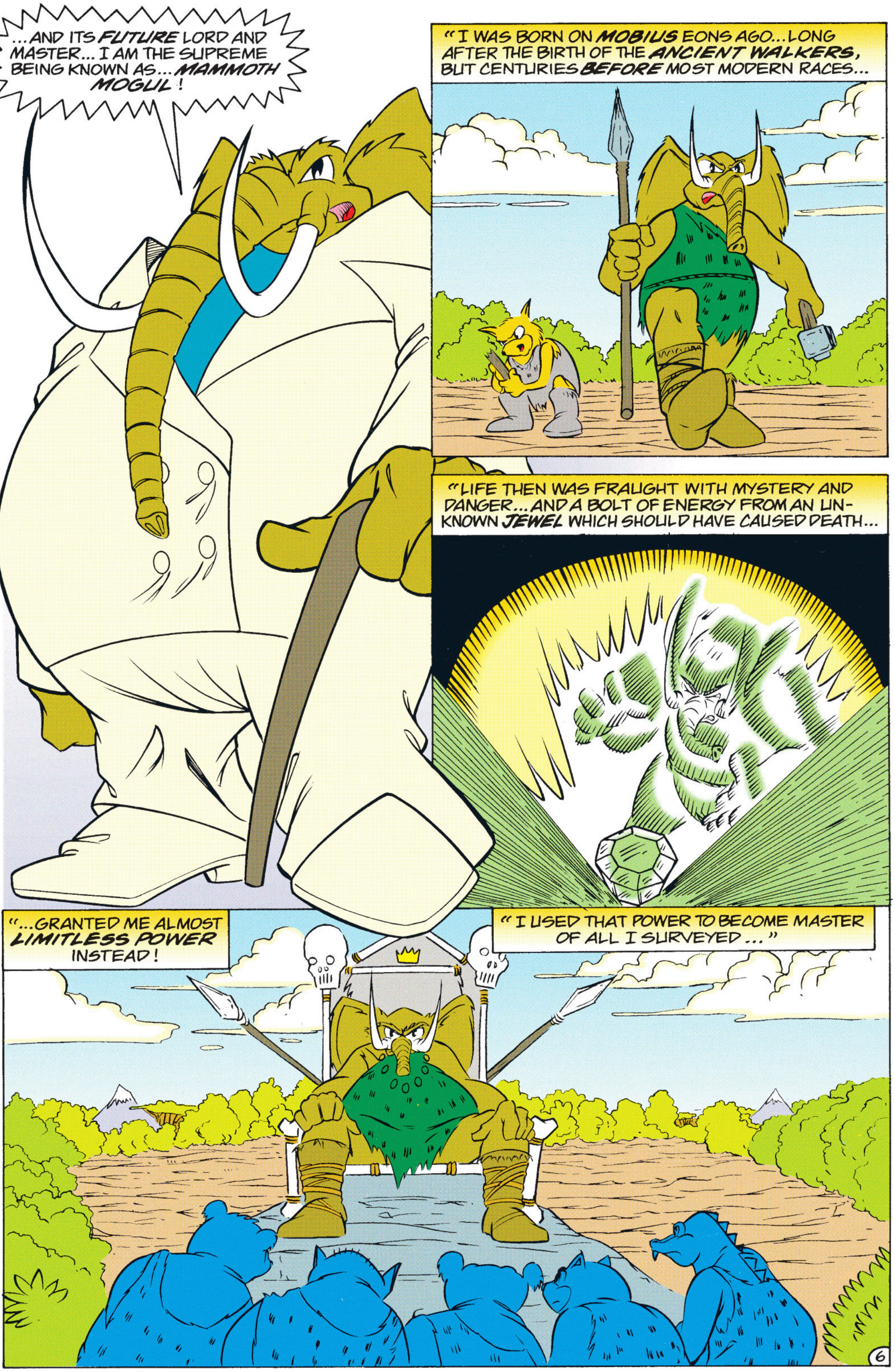

IT'S AMAZING...
FWAP!
IT'S AMAZING THAT WHILE A BATTLE HAS BEEN WON ON PLANET MOBIUS...*
...ANOTHER BATTLE IS BEING LOST ON THE FLOATING ISLAND!
* SEE MAIN STORY-- EDITOR
WE ARE NOT NATURAL ENEMIES, SMALL ONE, BUT THE AIR IS THE DOMAIN OF PREDATOR HAWK!
THUD
THEY CALL THIS BOY MIGHTY ?! WELL, HE'S PRETTY WEAK WHEN IT COMES TO GUERRILLA WARFARE!
BRACK!
THE CHAOTIX
DON'T LET THE ISLAND HIT YOU ON THE WAY DOWN!

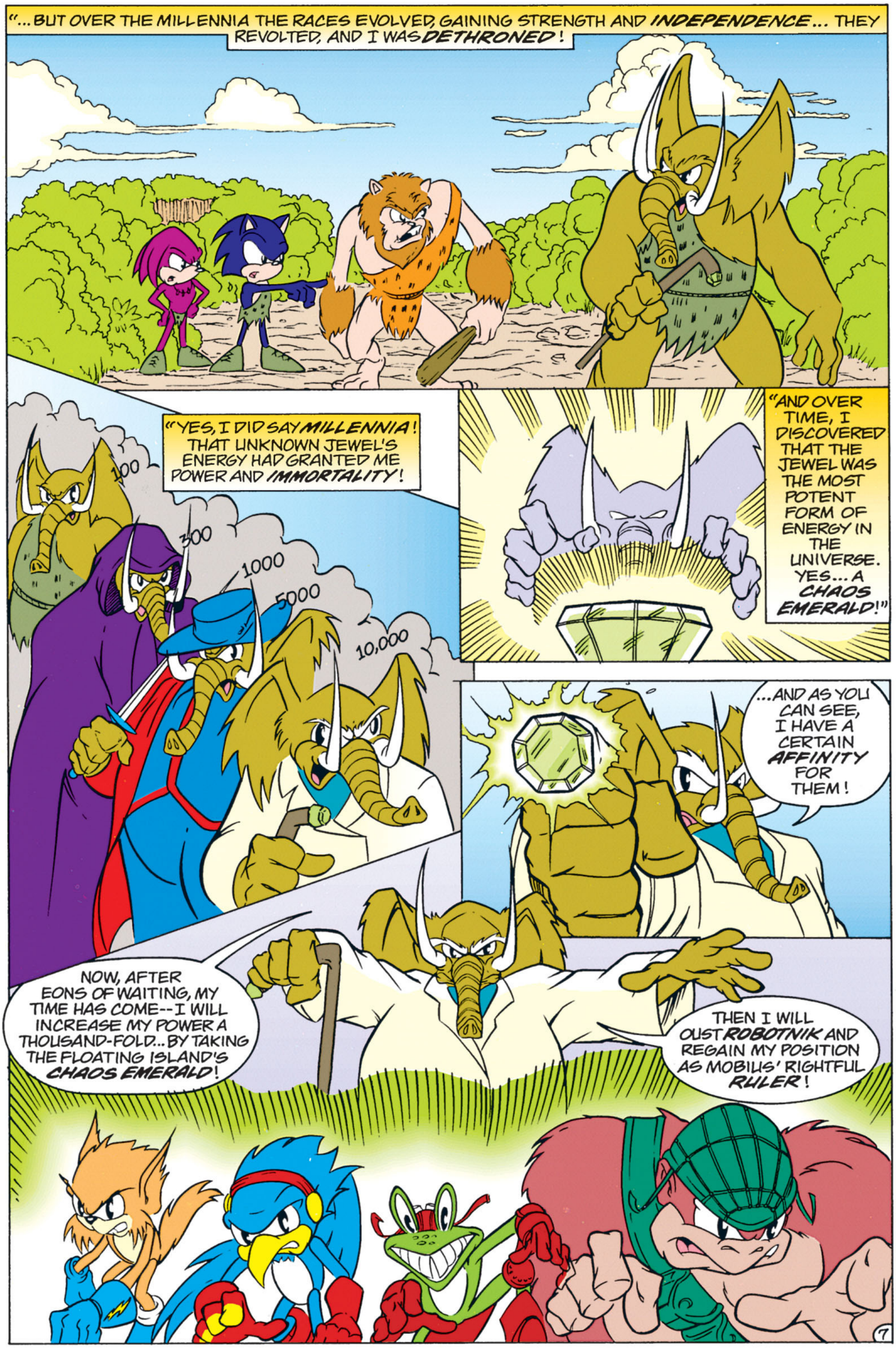

SGT. SIMIAN TO SQUAD TWO--OUR LANDING HAS SET OFF AN ALARM!
PROCEED TO POINT "B" WITH CAUTION!
EEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE
...AND AT POINT "B"...
SOMETHIN'S NOT COOL 'CAUSE CHARMY AND MIGHTY ARE GONE TOO LONG!
THIS AIN'T NO FALSE ALARM!
I THOUGHT THINGS WOULD BE COOL WHILE KNUCKLES WAS AWAY--BUT IT SEEMS LIKE WE'VE GOT INTRUDERS! RIGHT, ESPIO?
Hmm... I GUESS YOU WON'T TALK WHEN YOU'RE IN "SPY MODE"!
EEEEEEEEEE
THAT WON'T HELP HIM AGAINST ME!
WHA--! NO WAY YOU COULD HAVE SEEN ME!
AGHH
WHO NEEDS TO SEE YOU WHEN MY KEEN SENSES CAN LET ME CATCH YOUR SCENT--EVEN HEAR YOUR HEARTBEAT!
ESPIO, LOOK OUT!
EEEEEEEEEE

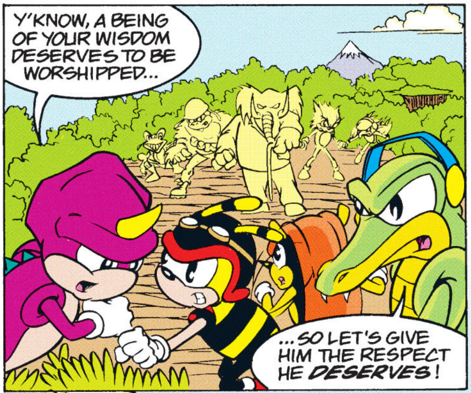

EEEEEEEEEEEE
TEE HEE BETTER WATCH YOUR *OWN* TUSHY!
KLOP!
UGH! A DUDE *FAST ENOUGH* TO TAG *ME*?!
TEE HEE I HEARD YOU HAVE A "REP" FOR SMOOTH MOVES, BUT YOU'RE NOTHING COMPARED TO *FLYING FROG*!
CLUNK
YEAH, WELL WHEN YOU'RE TALKIN' FAST MOVES, NOBODY CAN MATCH *LIGHTNING LYNX*!
AS OUR STRANGE INVADERS CONVENE...
SQUAD TWO TO SARGE... WE GOT THE *DROP* ON THE CHAMELEON AND THE *CROC*!
THESE SOLDIERS DIDN'T KNOW *BATTLE LESSON ONE*--
--ONE OF THE BEST ADVANTAGES IS THE "ELEMENT OF SURPRISE"!
THESE FOUR WERE CERTAINLY *NO CHALLENGE*!

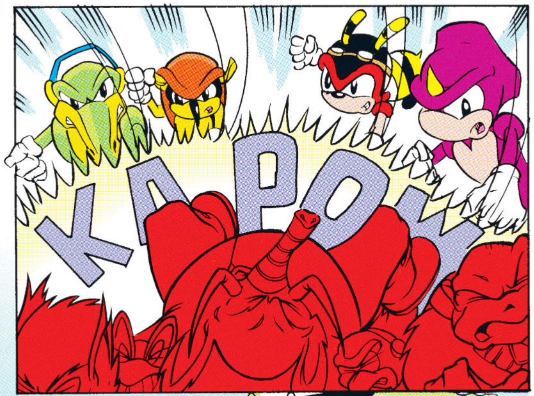

SUDDENLY...
...WELL, HERE'S LESSON TWO--
--FOUR DIFFERENT ANIMALS LIKE US CAN STILL PLAY POSSUM!
GAKK!
POW
LESSON THREE-- NEVER UNDERESTIMATE AN OPPONENT'S SPEED...
...OR STRENGTH!
BREKK!
SPLAK!
DON'T FORGET LESSON FOUR...
...THE VALUE OF TEAMWORK!
SPLAT!
OOOF!
--OR LESSON FIVE--
SPLOW!
--SMALL THINGS CAN PACK A BIG PUNCH!
AGGH!

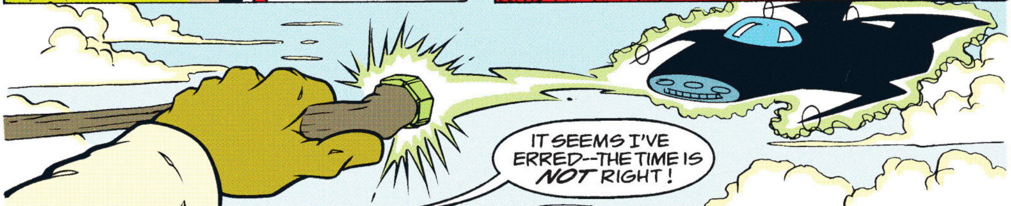

YEAH!
OK, TALK! WHO'RE YOU AND WHAT DO YOU WANT?!
THE ONLY THING YOU'LL LEARN TODAY ARE OUR NAMES, RANKS AND SERIAL NUMBERS...
...AND THE MOST IMPORTANT LESSON OF ALL...
...ALWAYS EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED!
HUH...?
THOOM
YOU'VE ALREADY MET MY FEARSOME FOURSOME, NOW ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE MYSELF...
...I AM THE FORMER RULER OF MOBIUS...

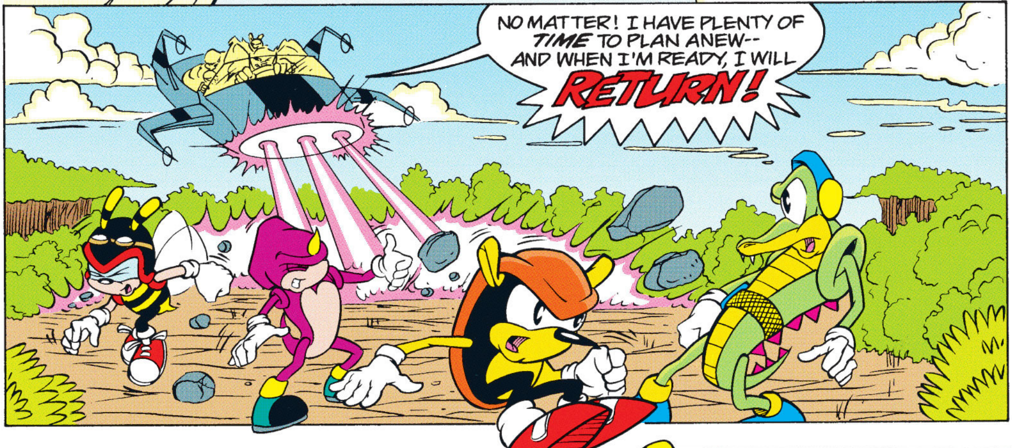

...AND ITS FUTURE LORD AND MASTER... I AM THE SUPREME BEING KNOWN AS... MAMMOTH MOGUL!
"I WAS BORN ON MOBIUS EONS AGO... LONG AFTER THE BIRTH OF THE ANCIENT WALKERS, BUT CENTURIES BEFORE MOST MODERN RACES...
"LIFE THEN WAS FRAUGHT WITH MYSTERY AND DANGER... AND A BOLT OF ENERGY FROM AN UNKNOWN JEWEL WHICH SHOULD HAVE CAUSED DEATH...
"...GRANTED ME ALMOST LIMITLESS POWER INSTEAD!
"I USED THAT POWER TO BECOME MASTER OF ALL I SURVEYED..."

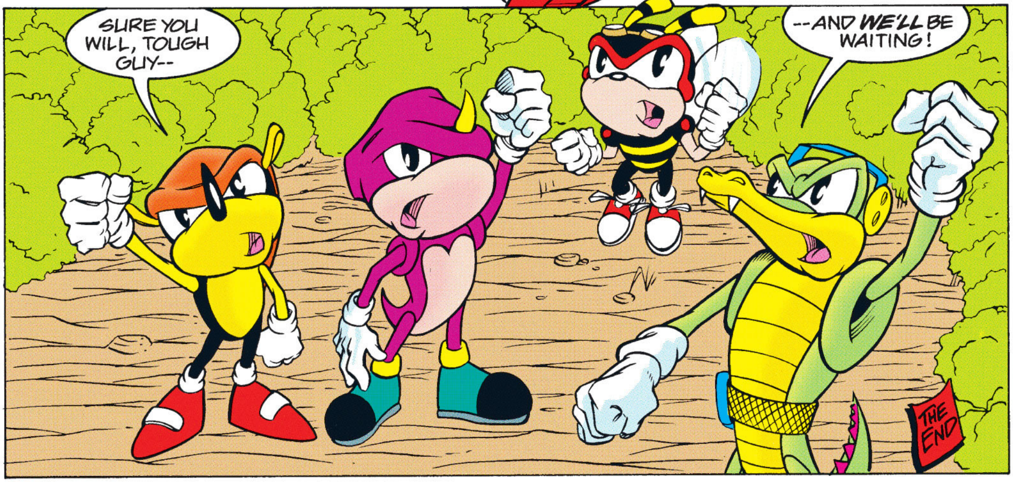

"...BUT OVER THE MILLENNIA THE RACES EVOLVED, GAINING STRENGTH AND *INDEPENDENCE*... THEY REVOLTED, AND I WAS *DETHRONED*!
"YES, I DID SAY *MILLENNIA*! THAT UNKNOWN JEWEL'S ENERGY HAD GRANTED ME POWER AND *IMMORTALITY*!
100
300
1000
5000
10,000
"AND OVER TIME, I DISCOVERED THAT THE JEWEL WAS THE MOST POTENT FORM OF ENERGY IN THE UNIVERSE. YES... A *CHAOS EMERALD*!"
...AND AS YOU CAN SEE, I HAVE A CERTAIN *AFFINITY* FOR THEM!
NOW, AFTER EONS OF WAITING, MY TIME HAS COME-- I WILL INCREASE MY POWER A THOUSAND-FOLD... BY TAKING THE FLOATING ISLAND'S *CHAOS EMERALD*!
THEN I WILL OUST *ROBOTNIK* AND REGAIN MY POSITION AS MOBIUS' RIGHTFUL *RULER*!

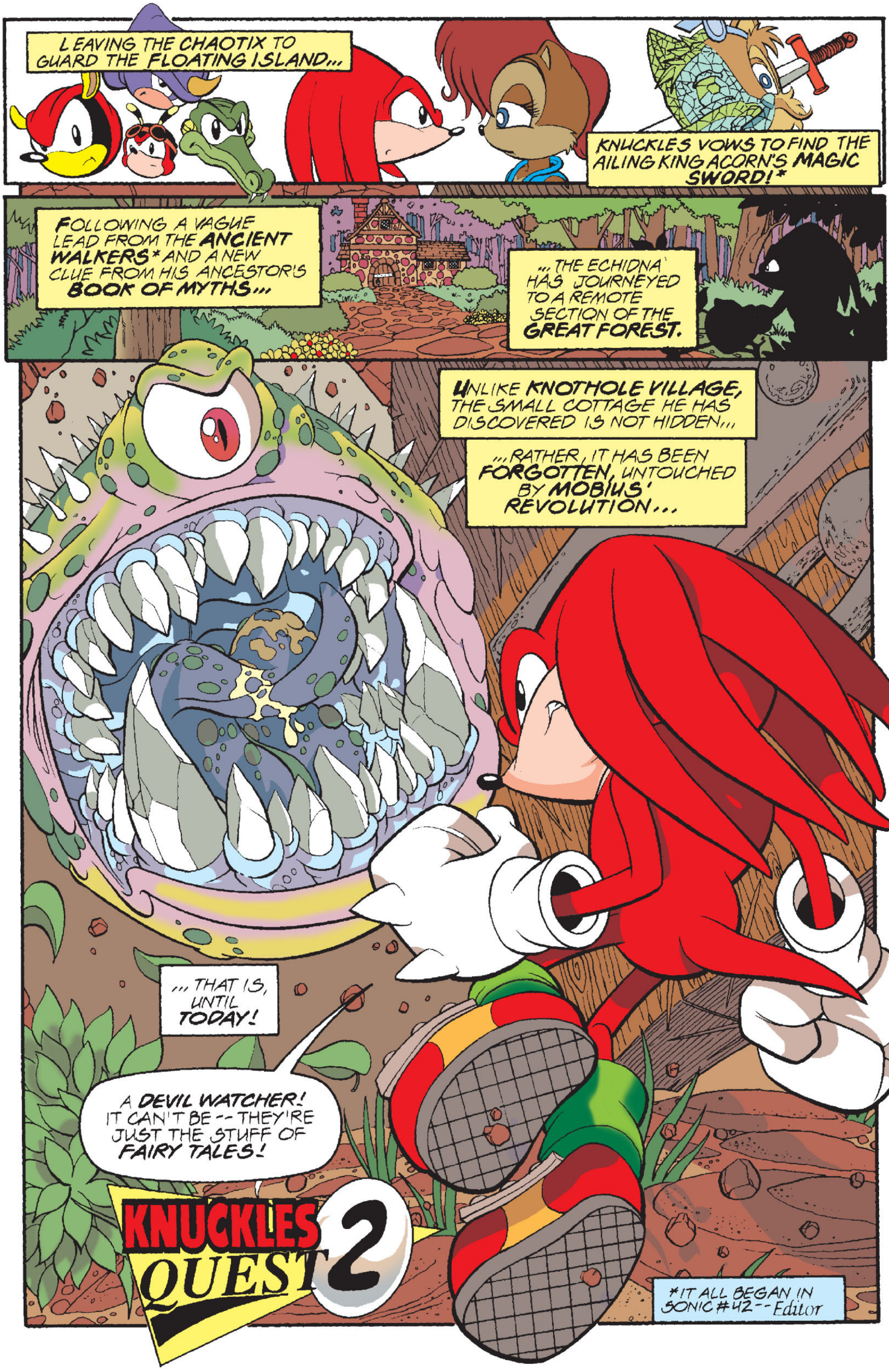

Y'KNOW, A BEING OF YOUR WISDOM DESERVES TO BE WORSHIPPED...
...SO LET'S GIVE HIM THE RESPECT HE *DESERVES*!

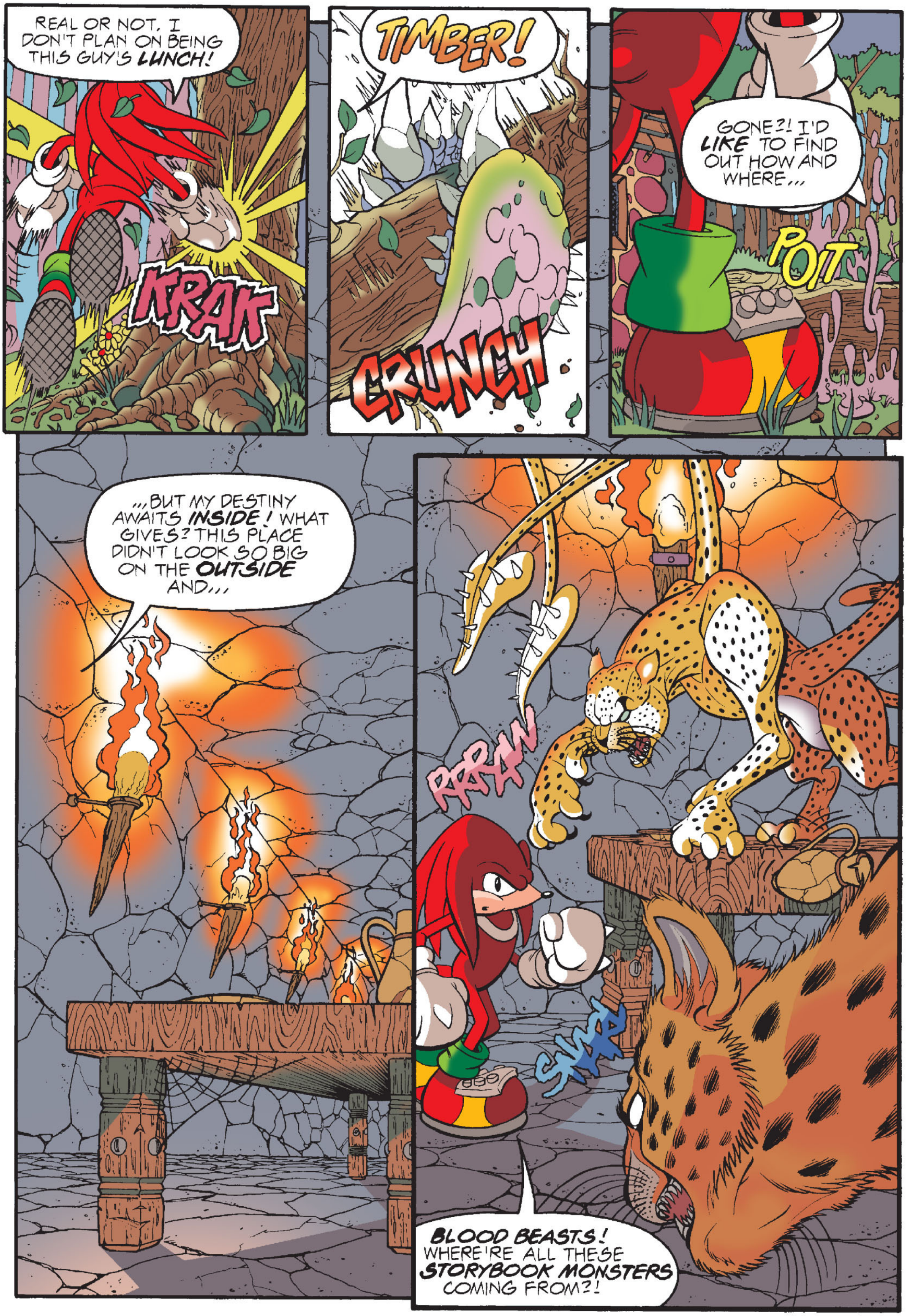

KAPOW

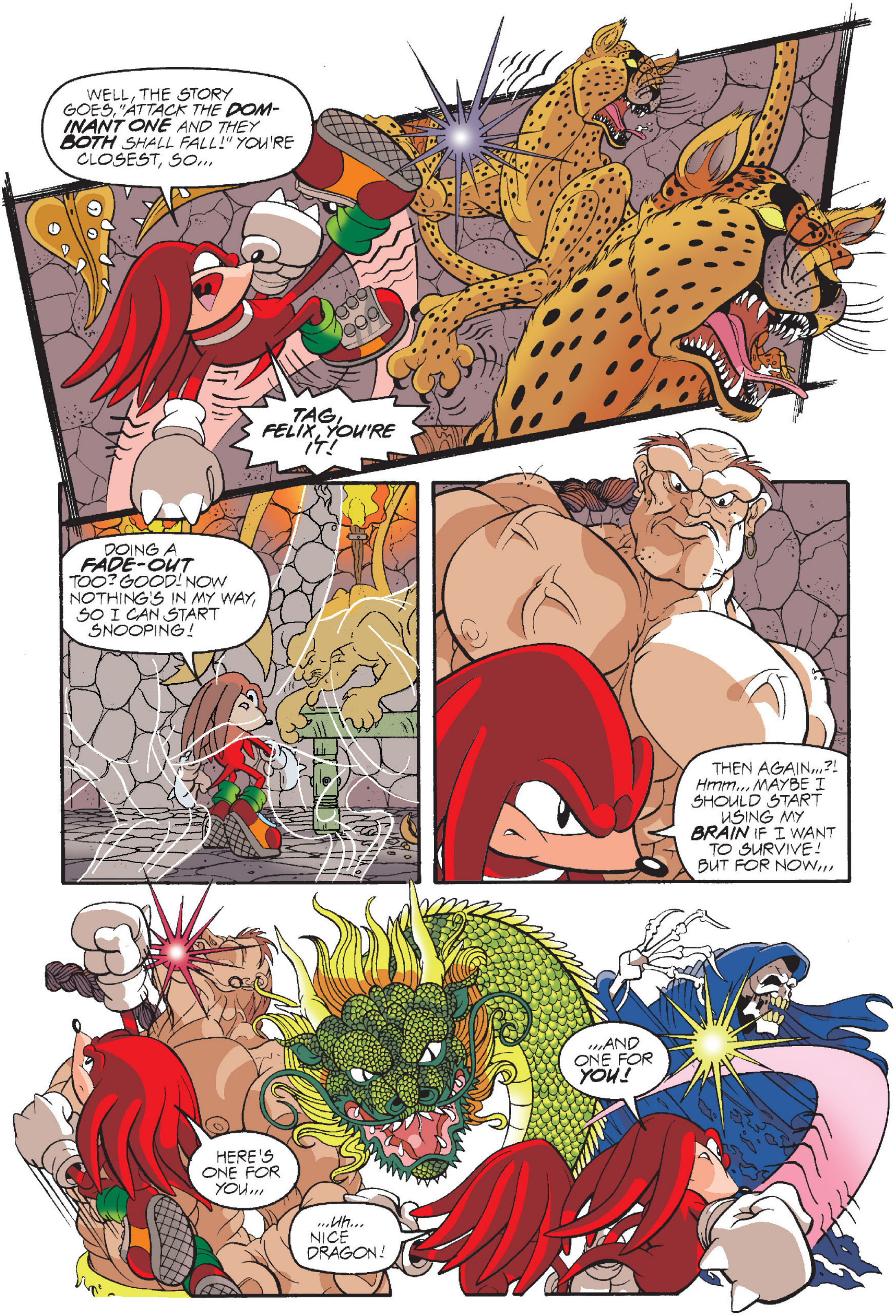

IT SEEMS I'VE ERRED--THE TIME IS *NOT* RIGHT!

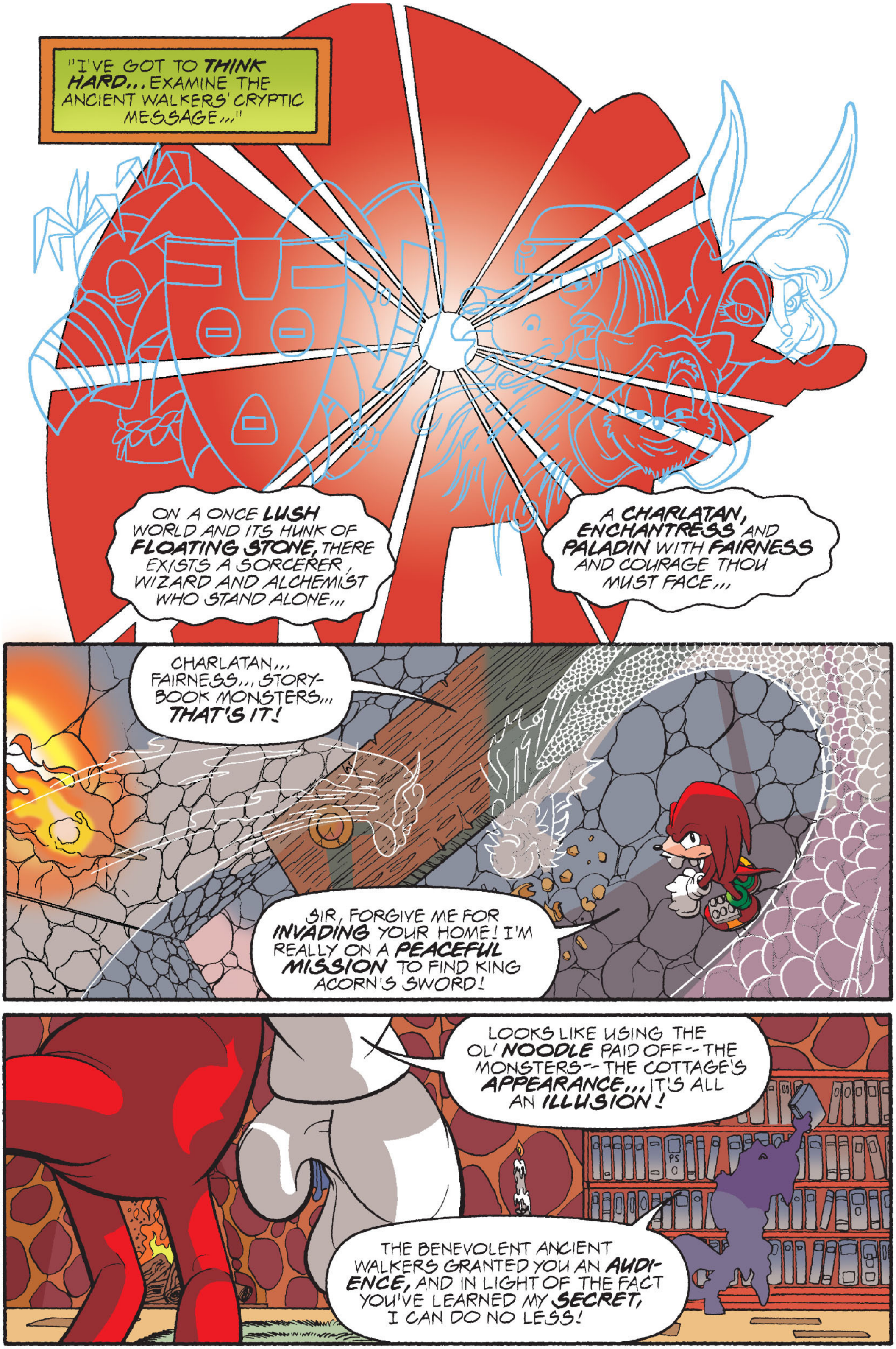

NO MATTER! I HAVE PLENTY OF *TIME* TO PLAN ANEW-- AND WHEN I'M READY, I WILL *RETURN!*

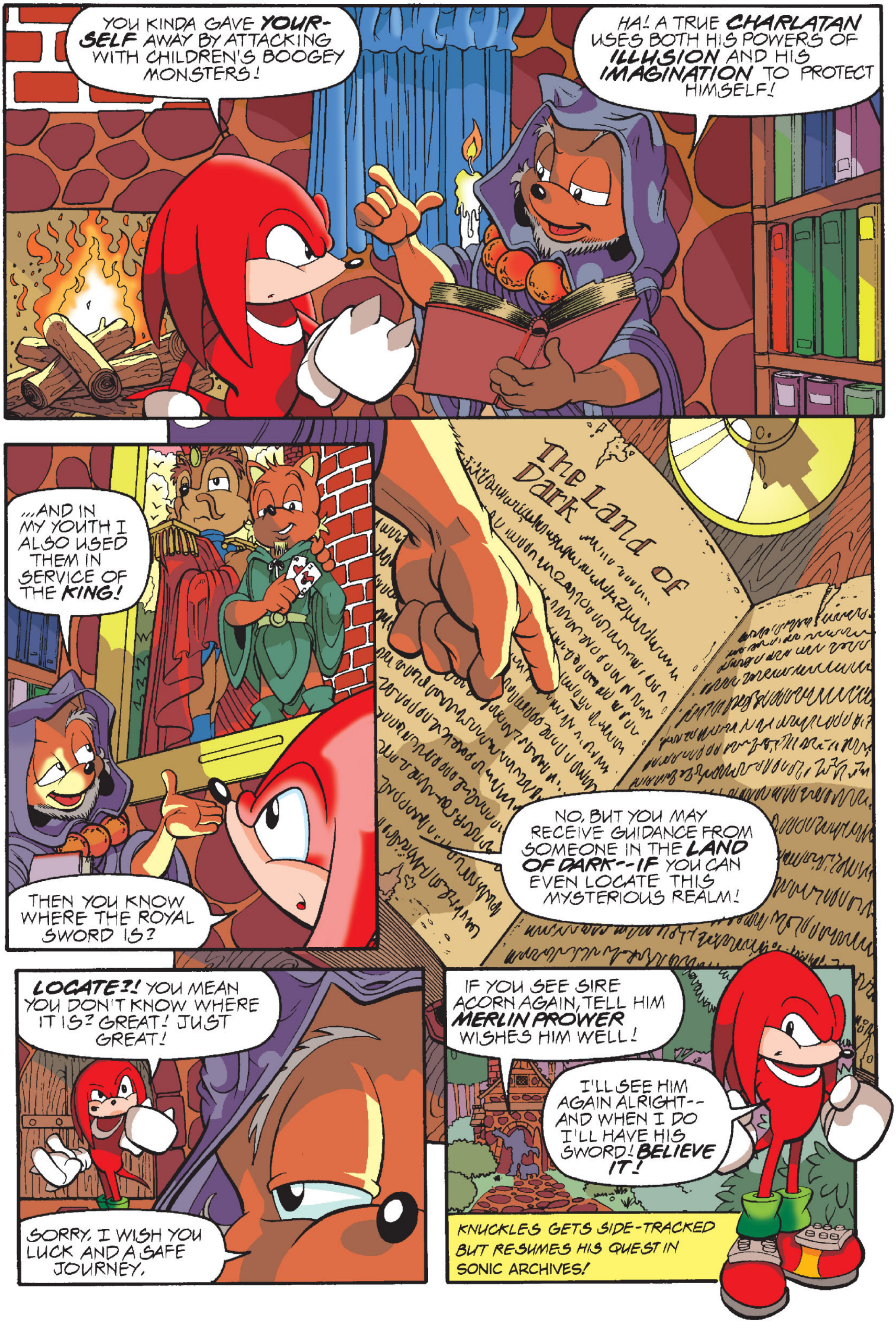

SURE YOU WILL, TOUGH GUY--
--AND *WE'LL* BE WAITING!
THE END


LEAVING THE CHAOTIX TO GUARD THE FLOATING ISLAND...
KNUCKLES VOWS TO FIND THE AILING KING ACORN'S MAGIC SWORD!*
FOLLOWING A VAGUE LEAD FROM THE ANCIENT WALKERS* AND A NEW CLUE FROM HIS ANCESTOR'S BOOK OF MYTHS...
...THE ECHIDNA HAS JOURNEYED TO A REMOTE SECTION OF THE GREAT FOREST.
UNLIKE KNOTHOLE VILLAGE, THE SMALL COTTAGE HE HAS DISCOVERED IS NOT HIDDEN...
...RATHER, IT HAS BEEN FORGOTTEN, UNTOUCHED BY MOBIUS' REVOLUTION...
...THAT IS, UNTIL TODAY!
A DEVIL WATCHER! IT CAN'T BE -- THEY'RE JUST THE STUFF OF FAIRY TALES!
KNUCKLES QUEST 2
*IT ALL BEGAN IN SONIC #42 -- Editor


REAL OR NOT, I DON'T PLAN ON BEING THIS GUY'S **LUNCH!**
KRAK
TIMBER!
CRUNCH
GONE?! I'D **LIKE** TO FIND OUT HOW AND WHERE...
POIT
...BUT MY DESTINY AWAITS **INSIDE!** WHAT GIVES? THIS PLACE DIDN'T LOOK SO BIG ON THE **OUTSIDE** AND...
RRRAW
SKUFF
BLOOD BEASTS! WHERE'RE ALL THESE **STORYBOOK MONSTERS** COMING FROM?!


WELL, THE STORY GOES, "ATTACK THE **DOMINANT ONE** AND THEY **BOTH** SHALL FALL!" YOU'RE CLOSEST, SO...
TAG, FELIX, YOU'RE IT!
DOING A **FADE-OUT** TOO? GOOD! NOW NOTHING'S IN MY WAY, SO I CAN START SNOOPING!
THEN AGAIN...?! *Hmm...* MAYBE I SHOULD START USING MY **BRAIN** IF I WANT TO SURVIVE! BUT FOR NOW...
HERE'S ONE FOR YOU...
...uh... NICE DRAGON!
...AND ONE FOR **YOU!**


"I'VE GOT TO THINK HARD... EXAMINE THE ANCIENT WALKERS' CRYPTIC MESSAGE..."
ON A ONCE LUSH WORLD AND ITS HUNK OF FLOATING STONE, THERE EXISTS A SORCERER, WIZARD AND ALCHEMIST WHO STAND ALONE...
A CHARLATAN, ENCHANTRESS AND PALADIN WITH FAIRNESS AND COURAGE THOU MUST FACE...
CHARLATAN... FAIRNESS... STORYBOOK MONSTERS... THAT'S IT!
SIR, FORGIVE ME FOR INVADING YOUR HOME! I'M REALLY ON A PEACEFUL MISSION TO FIND KING ACORN'S SWORD!
LOOKS LIKE USING THE OL' NOODLE PAID OFF--THE MONSTERS--THE COTTAGE'S APPEARANCE... IT'S ALL AN ILLUSION!
THE BENEVOLENT ANCIENT WALKERS GRANTED YOU AN AUDIENCE, AND IN LIGHT OF THE FACT YOU'VE LEARNED MY SECRET, I CAN DO NO LESS!
PS


YOU KINDA GAVE **YOURSELF** AWAY BY ATTACKING WITH CHILDREN'S BOOGEY MONSTERS!
HA! A TRUE **CHARLATAN** USES BOTH HIS POWERS OF **ILLUSION** AND HIS **IMAGINATION** TO PROTECT HIMSELF!
...AND IN MY YOUTH I ALSO USED THEM IN SERVICE OF THE **KING!**
THEN YOU KNOW WHERE THE ROYAL SWORD IS?
The Land of Dark
NO, BUT YOU MAY RECEIVE GUIDANCE FROM SOMEONE IN THE **LAND OF DARK--IF** YOU CAN EVEN LOCATE THIS MYSTERIOUS REALM!
LOCATE?! YOU MEAN YOU DON'T KNOW WHERE IT IS? GREAT! JUST GREAT!
SORRY. I WISH YOU LUCK AND A SAFE JOURNEY.
IF YOU SEE SIRE ACORN AGAIN, TELL HIM **MERLIN PROWER** WISHES HIM WELL!
I'LL SEE HIM AGAIN ALRIGHT-- AND WHEN I DO I'LL HAVE HIS SWORD! **BELIEVE IT!**
KNUCKLES GETS SIDE-TRACKED BUT RESUMES HIS QUEST IN SONIC ARCHIVES!

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